

Jordan Times

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U.S. house rejects Saudi arms sale

WASHINGTON (R) — The House of Representatives voted 356 to 62 on Wednesday to reject President Reagan's \$354 million sale of advanced missiles to Saudi Arabia, ignoring a last-minute appeal from the White House. The defeat, and a 73-22 vote on Tuesday in the Senate (See page 2), were the latest in a series of congressional blows to Mr. Reagan's policy of selling arms to Arab states. But there was a chance the administration would win in the end. The house and Senate votes marked the first time Congress has exercised its legislative right to block an arms sale. In the past, Congress has succeeded in forcing the administration to modify or postpone several arms deals to Arab states simply by threatening action or exerting pressure. But the votes represent only the first round of the battle.

Syrian-Hezbollah battles reerupt

BAALBEK (AP) — Clashes broke out anew in Baalbek on Wednesday between the Syrian army and pro-Iranian Shi'ite extremists believed responsible for kidnapping American and French hostages. The two sides used automatic rifles, machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades in the firefight, but no casualties were reported. The hostilities erupted at 3 p.m., shortly after the Syrian army positioned sharpshooters at rooftops and deployed tank-led troops around the predominantly Shi'ite city. Steel-helmeted Syrian troops made an undetermined number of arrests in houses they searched for suspected militiamen of Hezbollah (Party of God), the fundamentalist Shi'ite faction loyal to Iran's Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, witnesses said.

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Qatari minister quashes rumours

BAHRAIN (AP) — Qatar's Information Minister Isa Ghanem Al Kowari on Wednesday categorically denied a report that he was shot and injured earlier in the day. "I'm in perfect health," he told AP in a telephone interview. "Nothing happened to me. I was playing tennis hours ago." Mr. Kowari's voice was clearly recognized by the AP reporter, who contacted the minister at his office in Doha, Qatar. Sources in Qatar, who refused to be identified, had claimed that Mr. Kowari suffered a minor gunshot injury, attributing this to an alleged family feud.

S. Yemen frees hundreds of detainees

ADEN (R) — South Yemen on Wednesday freed 552 people held since mid-January for their support of ousted President Ali Nasser Muhammad, officials said. They were the third batch of detainees released under an amnesty declared by President Haider Abu Baker Al Attas in March, bringing the total number freed to 2,472.

Sudanese army retakes Rumbek

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudanese troops have recaptured the town of Rumbek in the southern province of Bahr Al Ghazal, the official Sudan News Agency (SUNA) reported. The agency quoted an authoritative source at the armed forces command for the report, but gave no further details. Rumbek was seized by the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army in March and government troops have had it surrounded for the past three weeks.

Opponent says Ershad 'stole' election

DHAKA (R) — Bangladesh's main opposition party leader said President Hossain Mohammad Ershad's martial law government "robbed" parliamentary elections marred by violence and charges of fraud. Sheikh Hasina Wajed, president of the Awami League, said at least 25 people were killed and 500 injured in election day violence. The toll could not be independently confirmed. "The election has been simply robbed by the military junta. We knew the election would be rigged but never dreamed it would be done on this scale," she said. (See story on page 8).

Manila debates Marcos' passport

MANILA (AP) — A presidential spokesman said on Wednesday some cabinet members suggested the Philippines might get more U.S. aid if ex-President Ferdinand E. Marcos were given a passport. Spokesman Fulgencio Factoran said some cabinet members oppose a U.S. request to reissue Marcos' passport, which the Aquino government revoked after the deposed ruler fled to exile in Hawaii in February. Factoran said no decision was made in a cabinet meeting on Wednesday on whether to renew Marcos' passport, but he said the cabinet discussed the possible benefits of such action.

Iraqis bomb Tehran, set refinery ablaze

Iraqi forces fortify captured positions in Iran territory, expect new offensive

Reuter and AP

IRAQI WARPLANES bombed Tehran's main oil refinery on Wednesday as an Iraqi commander said a new Iranian offensive was imminent on the southern Gulf war front.

Witnesses said an Iraqi jet dropped "a bomb as big as a car" on the refinery at 11:10 a.m. starting a blaze which belched smoke over the city for three hours before firefighters managed to contain it. A military communiqué in Baghdad said squadrons of planes attacked the 200,000 barrels-a-day complex, Iran's second biggest refinery, and "reduced it to ashes." A second air raid alert was broadcast on Tehran Radio four hours after the raid, and anti-aircraft fire was heard all over the city, but there was no sign of another attack. The refinery raid was the first on Tehran since the "battle of the cities" in May and June last year, when some 400 Iraqis were reported killed in 30 Iraqi attacks. Iran hit back with at least 10 long-range rocket attacks on Baghdad before United Nations intervention ended the cycle of tit-for-tat strikes.

Iraq's Fao Peninsula. The marshes were the scene of a big Iranian advance two years ago when troops captured the oil-rich Majnoon Islands in some of the bloodiest fighting of the almost six-year conflict.

Iraq says it has now recaptured most of the area. For the first time after withdrawing from western tracts in Iran four years ago, Iraqi ground forces have also taken the war into Iranian territory. "This (fighting) is not going to be the last time," Gen. Sultan warned at a news conference Tuesday night. "We will stay in Iranian territory, hold on to it, and we will thrust deep into Iranian land." Gen. Sultan, commander of the Fourth Army Corps deployed in the central sector of the 1,180-kilometre front line was talking to reporters at his headquarters not far from an occupied tract of Iran known as Fuga Gevaneh. Iraqi President Saddam Hussein warned in a speech on Sunday that Iraq would destroy Iran's war machine even if that would mean chasing the Iranian army into its own territory, as long as Tehran refused a peace settlement and

(Continued on page 3)

Syrian paper, saying U.S. attack is imminent, warns Washington

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — An American attack on Syrian territory is imminent in the wake of U.S. allegations that Damascus was supporting "international terrorism," the semi-official Syrian daily Tishrin said Wednesday. In an editorial, Tishrin cited statements by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in Tokyo and "American propaganda" as paving the way for an attack on Syrian territory. The editorial said the American Central Intelligence Agency and the Israeli secret service and intelligence network could "hatch a plot to provide fabricated evidence that Syria was involved in international terrorism." Tishrin noted that as early as February last year U.S. President Ronald Reagan claimed that Syria was a "stumbling block" in the path for American plans in the Middle East. Now "the planned American aggression against Syria aims at removing that block," Tishrin said. It warned that the U.S. would

"pay dearly for any aggression on Syria." The newspaper's commentary followed an open and direct accusation by U.S. Vice-President George Bush on Tuesday that Syria was involved in "international terrorism." President Ronald Reagan threatened to take military action against Iran and Syria if "irrefutable evidence" was found of the two countries' involvement in "international terrorism." Mr. Reagan ordered U.S. warplanes to bomb two Libyan cities last month saying that Libya was involved in the April 5 bombing of a West Berlin discotheque. Mr. Bush said on Tuesday he doubted the Tokyo summit statement on "international terrorism" would cause Damascus to "change" its policy. The statement adopted by Mr. Reagan and leaders of other Western industrial nations — Britain, France, Italy, Canada, West Germany and Japan — vowed to fight "state-sponsored terrorism relentlessly and without compromise," but singled out only Libya by name. After a White House meeting with Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin (See page 2), Mr. Bush noted that Syria was also on the State Department's list of nations which sponsor "terrorism" when asked by a reporter to evaluate its role in the problem. "We are convinced that their fingerprints have been on international terrorist acts," he said. "Let us hope, if anything good is to come out of the recent events related to terrorism, when they see the Tokyo summit speaking in unity on this question, maybe that will affect change on their part." However, Mr. Bush added he was "not too optimistic" that such a change would occur. "We have some of the best intelligence in the world... we work very cooperatively with many states that have been affected by terrorism, and we know what we're saying when we say they've sponsored terrorism," he said.

'Some Chernobyl staff shirked responsibilities'

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The Kiev region Communist Party leader said in an interview published on Wednesday that some workers had shirked their responsibilities in tackling the disaster at the Chernobyl nuclear plant. Grigory Revenko balanced his criticism with praise for the workers who were still in the area of the stricken power station. Referring to the lessons to be learned from the April 26 accident, Mr. Revenko said it was not enough to give out only optimistic information. "You cannot hide a sin: individual workers were found who in the difficult conditions did not display the necessary steadfastness and willingness to be at the front line." But he added: "Those who are in the area of the station (now) are simply working selflessly." Giving details of the April 27 evacuation, Mr. Revenko said the power station settlement was emptied in less than three hours. A 20-kilometre column of 1,100 buses took the citizens out of the area. "There was some lack of coordination, basically of an organisational character, in providing the evacuees with the basic necessities, especially clothing and footwear," he said.

Mahdi seeks to reconcile deputies from south

KHARTOUM (R) — New Prime Minister Sadiq Al Mahdi said on Wednesday he had called for talks with southern politicians to iron out differences hindering formation of Sudan's first democratic government in 17 years. "Southern parties have been asked to meet me and I think they will show up to discuss the basis of their participation in government," he told reporters. Deputies from the south and the small National Sudan Party (NSP) walked out of parliament on Tuesday just before Mr. Mahdi formally voted in as premier, to protest at what they called the unacceptable dominance of traditional northern parties. But sources in Mr. Mahdi's Al Umma Party said some of the deputies who protested in parliament had reconsidered and were now willing to cooperate with Al Umma and its ally, the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP). In its meeting on Tuesday, the Sudanese parliament also elected a five-man supreme council, headed by businessman Ahmad Ali Al Mirghani, which will act as head of state. Mahdi's descendant becomes Sudanese premier, page 4

King attends Special Forces celebrations

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, on Wednesday attended a celebration by the Special Forces Corps marking its 23rd anniversary. The celebrations included a display of using various weapons, hand-to-hand fighting, acrobatics and use of explosives and booby traps. Also the kwan-do martial art performances and parachuting from high altitudes were included in the exercises. Later, formations of the Special Forces carried out mock raids on enemy positions, assisted by the Royal Jordanian Air Force. The King also inspected an exhibition of modern equipment and weapons used by the Special Forces. Towards the end of the celebration, King Hussein was presented with a token gift by the Special Forces commander. Also on Wednesday, King Hussein watched military exercises by army units using armour and infantry units. Also attending the exercises



His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, shakes hands with members of the Special Forces which celebrated its anniversary on Wednesday (Petra photo)

Prince Hassan: Elimination of poverty is the national priority

Special panel outlines features of 5-year-plan

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said Wednesday that plans should be laid down for enabling needy families in Jordan to be transformed into productive units capable of supporting themselves instead of remaining a liability to the society. The Crown Prince said a comprehensive survey covering all "pockets of poverty" in Jordan should precede the implementation of such plans designed to provide a decent life for all. Prince Hassan was addressing a meeting of a general committee in charge of the 1986-1990 Five-Year-National Development Plan at the University of Jordan. The new development plan, Prince Hassan told the meeting, is linked, to a large extent with the concept of regional and international development in a broader sense. It also coincides with a plan for the development of Arab territories under Israeli rule, directly or indirectly affecting more than three and a half million people, Prince Hassan said. All plans for the development of different governorates should be linked with the overall plan, and these should be up-dated every four months or so in coordination with the Ministry of Planning, Prince Hassan said. Also, he said, priority should be given to projects that are conducive to making Jordan an industrial centre and to the production of food and to agriculture.

Education Prince Hassan said that a special team has been entrusted with the task of introducing measures aimed at improving the quality of education. The team, which groups specialists from the Ministry of Higher Education and the Ministry of Education, should aim at linking the development of Jordanian manpower with needs of national development, so that unemployment in the country can be curtailed, Prince Hassan said. He expressed hope that the provisions of the new plan will be translated into real economic and social development in Jordan as a whole and in the rural and badia regions of the country in particular which form 90 per cent of the total area of the Kingdom. Prince Hassan voiced hope that the new plan will enable all regions of Jordan to be supplied with water and electricity and in transforming the rural regions into

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Vayrynen calls for renewed peace effort

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Finnish Foreign Minister Paavo Vayrynen on Wednesday urged all parties involved in the Middle East conflict to work towards reactivating efforts for a just solution to the Palestinian problem. Speaking at the press conference on Wednesday, the second day of his visit to Jordan, Mr. Vayrynen said Finland was not undertaking any diplomatic role in Middle East peace efforts but would staunchly support any country's move towards a peaceful settlement to the region's conflict. Finland, Mr. Vayrynen said, has always contributed to efforts to defuse tension in the Middle East and elsewhere by sending peace-keeping forces but stayed away from political involvement. During his three recent visits to the region which took him to Egypt, Syria, Greece, Lebanon and Cyprus, the Finnish minister inspected his country's units in U.N. sponsored peace-keeping forces on the Golan Heights, Sinai and South Lebanon. The Finnish minister said his country's troops will remain in the U.N. forces so long as the situation requires. The Finnish minister described his visit to Jordan as aimed at promoting bilateral relations. Mr. Vayrynen held talks with Foreign Minister Taher Masmari (See page 3) and Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Rajai Muasher on Wednesday. Means and ways to enhance bilateral trade, which is currently in favour of Finland, figured high during his talks with Dr. Muasher. Finland virtually imports nothing from Jordan while the Kingdom's imports from Finland are estimated at approximately \$10 million. Mr. Vayrynen is due to fly to Turkey on Thursday.

U.S. has no plans to revive Mideast peace efforts — Murphy

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — A top U.S. official has predicted the current diplomatic stalemate in the Middle East could lead to new violence but said the Reagan administration planned no fresh initiatives to revive the stalled peace process. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy told a House of Representatives foreign affairs subcommittee on Tuesday that during the diplomatic impasse, frustrations were piling up, among young Palestinians in particular. Asked whether violence was likely to break out if the situation continued, Mr. Murphy said: "I think it is inevitable... even if war is not looming in the next month or year." He told the panel: "The United States is in a period of reflection... we have reached no consensus on how to move things ahead." This assessment on the Middle East — the gloomiest presented publicly to Congress in recent

months — was "very discouraging, nothing's happening," subcommittee Chairman Lee Hamilton told Reuters. "One gets the impression the president and the secretary of state don't have much interest in the Middle East... there's no active role on the part of either of them," Mr. Hamilton told Mr. Murphy. Mr. Hamilton, from the opposition Democratic Party, said that the administration was so caught up with fighting "terrorism" that it was neglecting the peace process and attempts to solve the economic and political problems that are the root cause of many violent acts. "We've let extremists in Libya and Lebanon dominate our agenda in the region... we've done it almost to the extent of exclusion of our other interests in the area," Mr. Hamilton said. Mr. Murphy, Mr. Reagan's chief Middle East envoy, denied the president and other high level officials lacked interest in the peace process. He said they decided any further movement "will depend on ideas that are developed in the region... the United States cannot want peace more than those in the region." Mr. Murphy acknowledged an increase in tensions between Israel and Syria since last November but said "we do not sense that either Israel or Syria is looking for war." Still, he said the impasse in the peace process since joint moves collapsed last February between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) had contributed to growing frustration among young Palestinians. During three hours of testimony, Mr. Murphy also made these points: — The administration wants U.S.

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Tokyo summit results draw mixed reaction

LONDON (Agencies) — The Western press on Wednesday gave a guarded welcome to moves at the seven-nation Tokyo summit to condemn terrorism and castigate the Soviet Union's handling of the Chernobyl nuclear accident. But the editorial columns were far more sceptical about the outcome of the debate on key trade and monetary issues and some newspapers criticised the heads of state for putting politics ahead of economics. The Soviet media criticised the United States and its Western partners. TASS said the Tokyo summit showed the capitalist world was sharply divided. The summit nations — the United States, Canada, West Germany, France, Italy, Britain and Japan — agreed on a declaration, naming Libya, to combat international terrorism and demanded new steps to tighten world-wide regulations on nuclear safeguarding in the wake of the Chernobyl disaster. The Times of London called the Tokyo meeting "by far the most

significant" of the recent Western summits and said its achievements were largely political. It praised the statement on terrorism as a good deal less tentative than previous joint declarations. In West Germany, the conservative daily Die Welt described the Tokyo gathering as "a summit of success." It said the declaration on fighting terrorism and on the reactor disaster at Chernobyl had contributed towards a good climate. The French press was also generally enthusiastic about the outcome of the summit and gave high billing to the — apparently smooth — first joint appearance of socialist President Francois Mitterrand and right-wing Prime Minister Jacques Chirac. The Soviet Communist Party daily Pravda commented on the summit with a cartoon instead of words. It showed a seven-sided boxing ring with boxers from each of the nations facing each other aggressively. The biggest and fiercest

looking boxer was the American. Western criticism was reserved mainly for the economic content of the summit, with the liberal Frankfurter Rundschau in West Germany voicing concern that the annual gathering had shifted away from its original aim of discussing economics. Meanwhile, the leaders assembled in Tokyo for the summit went in different directions one by one after a lavish banquet given by Japan's Emperor Hirohito. British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was the first to leave, going straight from the banquet to the airport Tuesday night, still wearing her sapphire-blue evening dress. Next to depart was the French delegation on Wednesday, with President Mitterrand and Premier Chirac leaving as they had come — in separate planes. It is French policy that the head of government and head of state never travel in the same plane, but their separate departures underlined the division of their gov-

ernment: Mr. Chirac is from the conservative opposition and socialist Mitterrand's number one rival. They made a stopover in Novosibirsk in the Soviet Union on their way back to Paris. Mr. Mitterrand took with him on his supersonic Concorde plane the president of the European Community (EC), Jacques Delors, and Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers, who also represented the EC at the summit. Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi decided during the three-day summit to postpone his departure from Tuesday night to Wednesday morning. Mr. Craxi made an official state visit to Japan prior to the summit. President Reagan ended the longest overseas trip of his term as he took off for Washington, with a stopover in Anchorage, Alaska.

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U.S. airman's body washed ashore

in Britain, Libyan television said: "Today, on the shores of the city of Al Zawiyah, the sea throws back the corpse of a rabid dog who participated in the sinful aggression against the peaceful people."

The body appeared swollen and badly decomposed. It was dressed in what looked like a uniform of dark colour with large patches of red fabric on the shoulders.

A camera focused on the hands of someone putting a U.S. 520 bill and \$1 bills on a paper tissue on the body. Another hand was seen placing a white purse on the chest.

A water bottle, possibly made of plastic, could be seen on the thigh. Several bullets were placed next to the money, and an open pocket knife could be seen on the shoulder of the body.

Last Friday, Libyan television showed pictures of what it described as a second American flier's helmet, which it said washed ashore at Tripoli.

Japanese Mideast policy 'is unchanged'

The declaration called for a ban on arms sales and curtailment of diplomatic ties with countries

against U.S.

"hypocrisy" of the Tokyo declaration and said the summit had failed to tackle the "American-anticipist aggression" against Libya — a reference to the April 15 U.S. air raids against Tripoli.

Plans for an Arab summit to discuss the raids collapsed last week after Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi proposed the venue be switched from the Mor-

Libya's official news agency JANA, commenting on the Tokyo

summit Tuesday accused Arab rulers of sitting on the fence and called on Arab armies and masses to launch a Jihad (holy war).

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

[illegible]

NEWS IN BRIEF

Salaries fixed for members of Parliament

AMMAN (J.T.) — The salaries of the speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament have been fixed at JD 1,100, plus a JD 80 car allowance, per month, according to cabinet decision quoted by Sawt Al Shaab newspaper. It said that members of the Upper and the Lower House of Parliament will receive JD 550 in salary, and a JD 50 car allowance per month.

Water contamination reported

AMMAN (J.T.) — Water near the waste water treatment plant at Khirbet Al Samra is contaminated and infested with snails, according to a report in the local press based on Health Ministry sources. It said that running water in a stream at Duleil is also considered polluted and both are not potable and therefore harmful to health. The water in these regions, the report said, is to be used solely for irrigation and not for human consumption.

Journalists visit Baqa'a refugee camp

AMMAN (Petra) — A U.N. fact-finding delegation of senior international journalists paid a visit Wednesday to the Baqa'a refugee camp north of Amman. The delegation, which arrived here on Tuesday, inspected the various quarters of the camp, boys and girls schools, the youth centre as well as the clinics of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA). The delegation also heard a detailed explanation about the conditions of the camp and its inhabitants.

Madadiah presents credentials

SEOUL (Petra) — Jordanian Ambassador to South Korea Khalid Al Madadiah presented his credentials on Wednesday to S. Korean President Chun Doo Hwan, who asked the ambassador to convey his best wishes and greetings to His Majesty King Hussein and Her Majesty Queen Noor. Mr. Chun made reference to the King's visit to South Korea in 1983 and which prompted the bolstering of bilateral relations between the two countries in all fields.

French public relations group arrives

AMMAN (J.T.) — A group of French public relations and advertisement agents arrived in Amman Wednesday on a tourist visit during which they will visit archaeological and historic sites in the Kingdom. The 20 member group, headed by Jean Marie Du Pont, an editor at Le Monde daily newspaper, are expected to launch a publicity campaign upon their return to France in preparation for the opening of a Jordanian exhibition in Paris later this year, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra said.

Agricultural Committee urges support for farmers

AMMAN (Petra) — The chairman and members of the Agricultural Committee at the Lower House of Parliament have paid tribute to the principles laid down by the government to develop agriculture in Jordan and to improve the efficiency and support the farmer. In a cable to Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai, Committee Chairman Mefleh Al Odattallah said that the committee has received many cables and petitions from farmers asking that coupons be issued to enable them buy diesel fuel for their machines and irrigation pumps at reduced prices. He also expressed his hope that the government will give the necessary attention to this subject in order to support Jordan's farmers.

Crown Prince: Elimination of poverty is priority

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regions attracting people.

Main features outlined

Minister of Planning Taher Kana'an later addressed the meeting.

He pointed out the main features of the JD 3.175 billion five year plan.

The new plan, Dr. Kana'an said, aims at adjusting the national economy, enlarging the degree of participation of the private sector, increasing the gross national product by at least five per cent annually and creating jobs for at least 97,000 people.

The new plan also provides for rationalising consumption and increasing local revenues to enable the government to cover its expenditure and curtail the deficit in the balance of trade, the minister said. Jordan, he added, hopes to achieve this partly through increasing its exports and reducing imports and through balanced trade exchanges with countries in the region.

The new national plan, the minister said, aims at achieving a basic structural change in the economy, ensuring food security, raising the standard of services and meeting the demands for various commodities through locally produced materials and goods.

The minister said priority in the new plan was given to the manufacture of commodities and JD 1.385 billion — nearly 44 per cent of total investments — will be spent in this sector.

But, he said, ample provisions have been made for developing agriculture which forms the backbone of national food security.

The government is expected to participate in the new plan by spending JD 1.754 billion over the coming five years, while the private sector will come up with the rest, nearly 44 per cent of the total investments, the minister explained.

Dr. Kana'an said inward transfers of Jordanian expatriates are expected to remain unchanged in comparison with last year's figures, and these funds will help implement the new plan. Also, Jordan hopes to reduce the number of non-Jordanian workers from 143,000 to 93,000 over the coming five years and hopes to obtain JD 250 million a year in Arab financial assistance and also hopes to increase its exports, he said.

He explained that the new plan

provides for two new aspects: creating a balance in the distribution of projects in all regions and giving better attention to remote and marginal regions of the Kingdom.

This plan, he added, is aimed at bridging the economic gap and removing social differences among various classes and carrying out balanced development for all sectors in all regions.

The Ministry of Planning has conducted a comprehensive survey of all regions to determine the total population of the Kingdom so that ample consideration can be given to schemes for development and for creating jobs for all, the minister said.

He said the new plan takes into account the fact that Jordan is part of the Arab Nation and provides for an economy that can be integrated with that of other Arab countries.

Between early 1970s and early 1980s, Jordan witnessed an 11 per cent annual growth, but this situation was reversed because Jordan's economy is closely related to those of the economies in the Gulf region. The Gulf countries' revenues retreated due to the drop in the oil prices and labour markets in these countries began to shrink adversely affecting Jordan, the minister said.

Dr. Kana'an pointed out that the world economy witnessed recession over the past years, increasing unemployment and other economic ills in many countries around the world.

The new plan, the minister said, is being implemented at a time when many world economies are in trouble and facing instability. The main reason for reviewing the plan, he said, is to present a general picture of Jordan's objectives and aims over the coming five years.

Ministry of Planning Secretary-General Dr. Ziyad Fariz, who heads the special committee, provided the meeting with important figures about Jordan's economic growth and outlined obstacles that have been impeding development in the previous five year development plan.

In the past five-year-plan, Jordan's financial assistance from Arab countries dropped from JD 415 million in 1981 to JD 290 million in 1985, and this has adversely affected the country's economy in general and the balance of payment in particular, Dr. Fariz said.

He said a drop in demand for



Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri (second from left), visiting Finnish counterpart, Mr. Paavo Vayrynen (second from right) and their aides Wednesday discuss the Middle East conflict and bilateral relations. (Petra photo)

In speech to WHO, Hamzeh calls for increased health aid from rich nations

GENEVA (J.T.) — Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh has urged rich nations to extend a helping hand to the poor and developing nations and participate in the drive to raise the health standards of their people. He said that by helping the developing countries in this endeavour and by preventing the spread of disease rich nations will in fact contribute to the good health of their own citizens, since disease is not checked by borders and knows no territorial limits.

In his address to the 39th meeting of the World Health Organisation (WHO) in Geneva, Dr. Hamzeh praised the role of the world organisation in its endeavours to maintain good health in various continents, especially in

Africa which, he said, requires particular attention in view of the drought, famine and difficult natural conditions its masses have been subjected to over the past years.

The minister referred to Jordan's assistance to the African people in Sudan to help them overcome the effects of drought and famine and to maintain health services to the many of the victims. He said effective international cooperation in health related matters can contribute towards bringing good health to all peoples by the year 2,000.

Dr. Hamzeh also stressed the importance of primary health services as a first step towards achieving good health for all and said

that rationalisation in spending on health services and avoiding unnecessarily costly hospital building programmes is essential if nations wish to achieve good health standards. It is time for the WHO to play a leading role in the process of medical rationalisation for the sake of saving necessary funds for financing advanced health services utilising modern technology, Dr. Hamzeh added.

He said that the world is now confronting major health problems including the abuse of drugs, which can destroy human life.

He noted that Jordan fully supports a call by the United Nations secretary-general for holding a conference in the coming year to examine this serious problem.

Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society marks anniversary of defeating fascism

AMMAN (J.T.) — A ceremony was held Wednesday at the headquarters of the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society in Amman to mark the 41st anniversary of the Soviet Union's victory over fascism.

Among the main speakers at the ceremony was former prime minister and member of the Upper House of Parliament Bajjat Talhomni, who paid tribute to the Soviet Union's current initiative for ending the arms race and its call for disarmament and the elimination of all nuclear weapons by the year 2,000.

He said that peace is the right of

all nations, and therefore it is incumbent on world powers to end the arms race, since a nuclear war means the end of human civilisation.

The world should take lessons from the previous two World Wars and seek to establish peace based on justice for all, stability and security for all countries of the world and a liberation of those countries that are still subjugated by foreign occupiers, Mr. Talhomni said.

In the Arab region, Mr. Talhomni said, we look to a just peace based on the Arab summit resolutions passed in Fez in 1982 and

Casablanca in 1985 which are designed to settle the Middle East issue and the Palestine problem.

Referring to the 1984 Soviet Union initiative for peace in the Middle East, Mr. Talhomni said that the call has been welcomed by the Arab World because it is in harmony with United Nations resolutions on the issue. Mr. Talhomni, who is also president of the Society, told the audience that Jordan firmly demands an international conference to help achieve peace in which all concerned parties and the super powers will participate.

IDB grants loans totalling JD 124,800

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank (IDB) last month granted 39 loans worth JD 124,800 to local industries and craftsmen, an IDB source said here on Wednesday. According to the source, the loans financed the establishment of bakeries, restaurants, workshops for car repair, manufacturing building materials, carpentry and a printing press. Craftsmen in the Irbid region, the source said got 27 per cent of the total loans and 52.1 per cent went to craftsmen in the Amman region.

Iraqis bomb Tehran

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continued to occupy the Fao Peninsula.

"As long as the enemy is holding on to Fao and has expansionist intentions... we have to occupy Iranian land, hold on to it and destroy the enemy's war machine," said Gen. Sultan to the reporters who were taken on a tour of parts of the Iranian territory.

Gen. Sultan estimated the areas captured by Iraq in battles late April and early May in the central sector of the warfront at 275 square kilometres.

In another development, Iran's U.N. ambassador was quoted on Tuesday as saying Tehran might talk peace in the Gulf war if President Hussein was replaced by Ali Saleh, a former Iraqi ambassador to the United Nations.

Kayhan newspaper said Ambassador Rajai Khorasani told a

Foreign Ministry seminar that if Mr. Saleh were installed, the United States and other backers of President Hussein "will have found a person (with whom) the Islamic republic will probably make a ceasefire and negotiations with."

It was the first time an Iranian official has publicly named a possible replacement for President Hussein. All international efforts to end the 5½-year-old war have stalled on Iran's condition that the Iraqi government be removed.

Mr. Rajai Khorasani said Mr. Saleh now lives as a bookseller in New York and was supported by Iraqi liberals and Baathists from Baghdad's ruling secular leftist party. He made no mention of the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, a Tehran-based group that receives support from Iran.

'U.S. has no peace plan'

(Continued from page 1)

oil companies still in Libya to cease operations as soon as possible.

The United States considers Syria a "terrorist state" and is prepared to take military action against it if it develops "irrefutable evidence" linking Syria to "terrorist" acts.

The decision of the Western industrialised nations in Tokyo to endorse a statement on "terrorism" following the U.S. attack on Libya proved "the wedge Colonel Qadhafi had hoped to drive between (Washington and its allies) is not working."

The Middle East, where there are "deteriorating conditions throughout the region," could use a multi-billion dollar "Marshall-type aid plan to supplement regular aid programmes but Europe and Japan should pay most of the costs.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and members of the five year plan committee and governors from all parts of the country.

Many of the questions posed to Mr. Murphy dealt with the issue of

Finland agrees Palestine problem is central issue in Arab-Israeli conflict

AMMAN (Petra) — Finnish Foreign Minister Paavo Vayrynen said Wednesday that his country views the Palestine problem as the central issue in the Arab-Israeli conflict and peace cannot be achieved without the recognition of the national rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland.

In a meeting with Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, Mr. Vayrynen said that peace cannot be achieved in the Middle East unless all countries in the region are allowed to live within secure boundaries. Peace, he said, can be achieved through an international conference and with the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

During their talks, Mr. Masri reviewed with the Finnish minister the latest developments in the region and peace initiatives aimed at achieving a just and durable peace. Jordan, he said, seeks the establishment of a peaceful settlement guaranteeing a total Israeli withdrawal from Arab land and the recognition of the rights of the Palestinian people. Mr. Masri also said Jordan seeks international efforts to put an end to

the Iran-Iraq war, which has sapped the resources of the two countries and endangered peace in the region and the world at large. He paid tribute to Iraq for accepting international mediation to end the war.

Mr. Vayrynen spoke of his country's role in supporting the United Nations in its bid to maintain peace and referred to Finland's participation in the United Nations peace keeping force in Lebanon and Golan Heights.

The two ministers, accompanied by aides, discussed the subject of international terrorism and both agreed on the need for concerted efforts to put an end to this danger and both condemned terrorism in all its forms, whatever its sources and reasons.

They also discussed bilateral relations and Finland's contribution to the budget of the Uni-

ted Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), and the Finnish minister promised that his country will study the possibility of increasing its contribution to the agency.

Mr. Vayrynen later held talks with Minister of Industry and Trade Rajai Muasher on economic and trade cooperation between his country and Jordan. Dr. Muasher briefed the Finnish minister on Jordan's economic policies and projects and referred to the law on encouraging investments and privileges for foreign investors.

He also spoke of Jordan's contribution to the development of other Arab states through the employment of Jordanian experts and skilled technicians in industrial, educational and agricultural sectors in these countries.

Several ministry officials and a delegation accompanying Mr. Vayrynen attended the meeting.

On Tuesday evening Mr. Masri hosted a banquet at the Intercontinental Hotel in Amman to honour Mr. Vayrynen, who arrived Tuesday on a three-day visit to Jordan.

PSD chief reveals traffic safety plan

AMMAN (J.T.) — Public Security Department Chief Major-General Abdul Hadi Al Majali announced Wednesday the department's intention to adopt strict measures to tackle what he described as the extremely alarming problem of traffic accidents in the Kingdom.

Gen. Majali said there will be many administrative changes within the Public Security Department with the establishment of centres for studies on traffic accidents and other traffic-related problems.

The Public Security chief said his department has established an Administration for Traffic Affairs in the Kingdom, entrusted with the preparation of studies and field research on traffic problems and coming up with solutions.

He said the department had already surveyed the condition of the roads in the Kingdom and gathered information on "trouble spots" where accidents are more common. He said that the available data collected has been relayed to the concerned authorities.

Gen. Majali told the Jordanian

News Agency, Petra, that in the light of studies conducted on traffic accidents in different parts of the Kingdom, the department has prepared a system for traffic law violators under which drivers would have a certain number of points registered against them after violations. Drivers exceeding the limit of these points would be liable to have their licences withdrawn for a certain period of time, Gen. Majali said.

He said the department will adopt an iron-fist policy against traffic violators.

Uncovering Jerash: The first 2 years

Jerash Archaeological Project 1981-1983 I

Edited by Fawzi Zayadine
Department of Antiquities, Amman (1986) 492 pp.

By Rami G. Khouri

AMMAN — This substantial volume of archaeological reports presents the results of the first two years of excavations and restoration work at Jerash.

When it was inaugurated in 1981, the Jerash International Project was supposed to encompass the work of archaeological teams from ten different countries, for a period of five consecutive years. As it turned out, financial constraints forced a scaling down of the five-year project, and after two full years of excavations and restoration by teams from eight countries, the scope of the work was reduced.

Today, teams from Jordan, France, Italy and Spain are excavating or restoring monuments in different parts of the ancient city, in some cases financed jointly by the department of Antiquities and their own governments.

This volume provides archaeological, historians and interested laymen with the fruits of the first two years of excavations at Jerash, in the form of preliminary excavation reports. The volume includes detailed reports by:

— The French team, on its work in and around the temple of Zeus complex and the south gate of the city;

— The Polish team, on its work in the Ulayyad residential quarter, and, jointly with the Department of Antiquities, on the excavation of the Church of Bishop Marianos, near Hadrian's Arch;

— The Italian team, on its investigation of the Temple of Artemis complex;

— The American team, on its excavation of the Church of Bishop Isaias, and its work in the north theatre;

— The British team, on its work in the north theatre, and jointly with the Americans, on soundings in the northwest quarter of the city, near the northwest gate;

— The Australian team, on its excavation of the north Decumanus street and the reconstruction of the north Tetrapylon;

— And the Spanish team, on its excavation of a large public building, perhaps the city's true forum, or Agora, in the south part of the city.

There are also reports by Jerry Schaefer and Rob Falkner on the Umayyad potter's complex they excavated in the north theatre ruins, and by Tomasz Scholl on the Chronology of Jerash lamps.

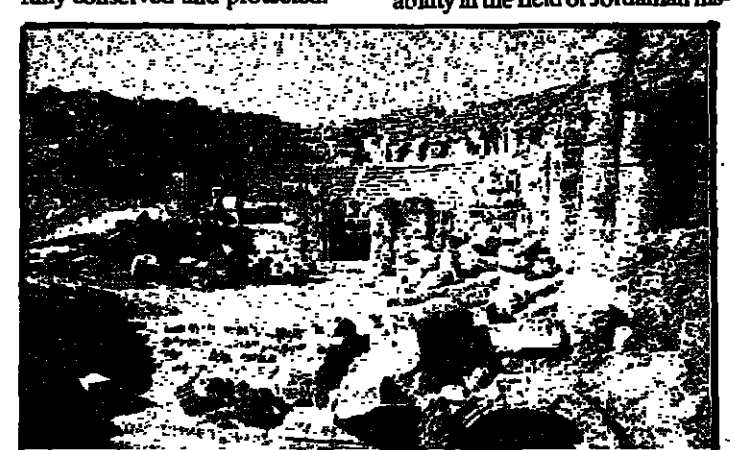
Detailed Reports

The reports, by nature, are rather detailed and probably too

complex for the non-specialist reader, but in most cases the accompanying plans, reconstruction drawings and photographs provide considerable new information in a manner that is more easily understood by the public at large. In this respect, the drawings of the Zeus Temple complex by the French team and those of the north theatre by the British and American teams are particularly useful to understanding the architecture and historical development of areas that now appear to many visitors to be crowded with many colorful stones.

BOOK REVIEW

This volume, for the moment, is also the only place where you can now admire the mosaics uncovered in the Church of Bishop Marianos and the Church of Bishop Isaias, as the mosaics have been covered with earth again to protect them until they can be fully conserved and protected.



The North Theatre at Jerash, excavated since 1982 (photo by Rami G. Khouri)

For those with a serious but not professional interest in the ancient history and ruins of Jerash, this book would be useful to browse through in a library, before or after a visit to the site. At JD 10 per copy, it is, in any case, not intended to appeal to the lay reader, but rather aims to make the considerable material gleaned from the Gerasene earth available quickly to the scholarly community.

In his introductory essay, Dr. Fawzi Zayadine reviews the work that was done at Jerash since the start of this century, and provides a useful historical outline of the city's development in antiquity, as this is pieced together and filled-in with the help of information acquired during the recent excavations.

He also describes the excavations conducted by the Jordanian Department of Antiquities. These included the vaulted tomb now perched bravely above the main road from

Amman, just to the south of Hadrian's Arch, and the late 6th century "house of the blues," north of the old restaurant (the present museum) on camp hill within the area of the ruins.

The Department of Antiquities and its director general Dr. Adnan Hadidi, are to be commended for producing this volume in what is, in this discipline, nearly blazing speed. The excavations are still going on at Jerash, and a second volume with the updated final reports should be published in the coming few years.

Printed in Jordan

The Department of Antiquities should also be commended for making the decision to publish this volume in Jordan, using locally available editing, typesetting and printing services. The easier decision would have been to commission the printing of the volume to an established publishing house in Europe or North America.

By printing the volume in Jordan, however, the department has taken a useful step towards promoting a more thorough capability in the field of Jordanian his-

tory and archaeology. This country has made good progress in training a small group of highly qualified and internationally respected Jordanian archaeologists, most of whom are with the universities or the department of antiquities, and it is logical that we should develop a capacity to publish archaeological work that is commensurate with our capacity to excavate and analyse antiquities sites.

To be sure, the printing may not always be as good as that which is available abroad, and there are several points on which this volume could be faulted, such as inconsistent contrast in the black and white photographs, and the occasional misplaced picture caption.

But these are relatively minor points, which appear insignificant in comparison with the quality of the reports, the speed with which the Department of Antiquities has made them available, and its correct decision to publish the material in Jordan.



How sad!

U.S. Vice-President George Bush has gone as far as any Reagan administration official could in directly accusing Syria of involvement in international terrorism. "We are convinced that their (Syrian) fingerprints have been on international terrorist acts," he told reporters after meeting the Israeli defence minister, Yitzhak Rabin, in Washington on Monday. "Let us hope, if anything good is to come out of the recent events related to terrorism, when they see the Tokyo summit speaking in unity on this question, maybe that will effect change on their part."

Mr. Bush's statement, coupled with his president's remarks on the same subject at a Tokyo press conference yesterday, is not only bound to heighten international tension even further but also raises the spectre of a new, devastating war erupting in the Middle East.

By its armed attacks against Libyan targets last month the Reagan administration wanted to make the point that it was ready to fight the scourge of terrorism wherever it originated. And that much was understood from the Americans. But for them to make the issue an obsession and a flashpoint for new wars, in this region and worldwide, is something that has to be stopped at all costs.

The Americans may or may not know that the Israelis have a vested interest in escalating tension to the maximum point between the U.S. and Syria. They may or may not believe that Israel is more than willing to drive the Middle East to the brink of war particularly over the issue of terrorism. But whereas the U.S. may think it is only applying pressure on states it suspects of sponsoring terrorism, by issuing daily threats and warnings against some or all of them, it cannot ignore the fact that Israel's hidden hands are never far from the trigger.

Washington could not have ignored the recent warnings of a pre-emptive strike against Syria from leading Israeli political and military figures. Nor could it have failed to note and analyse the other indications of an imminent new war between Israel and Syria. It must therefore be made more aware of the implications of its words and actions vis-a-vis the explosive situation in this area.

Lee Hamilton, the chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives' subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East, touched the core of the issue in a debate with Richard Murphy, the ranking Middle East specialist in the State Department, yesterday. "The Reagan administration was so caught up with fighting terrorism that it was neglecting the peace process and attempts to solve the economic and political problems that are the root cause of many terrorist acts," Mr. Hamilton said. "We've let extremists in Libya and Lebanon dominate our agenda in the region," he continued. "We've done it almost to the extent of exclusion of our interests in the area." How sad!

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: A new phase begins

IT is clear now that a new phase of serious joint action on the part of Syria and Jordan has begun, and the result of the meetings in Amman between the leaders of both countries will no doubt be felt in the region. The three meetings which King Hussein and President Assad held in Amman paved the way for such serious action and enhanced previous cooperation in economic, social and political fields. Any positive result will no doubt affect the entire Arab World and will boost pan-Arab action in the face of the common challenges and the common threats. The enemies of the Arab Nation continue to count on our differences and our weakness, and also pursue plans for dominating our land and for imposing hegemony on our peoples. Any strengthening of Jordanian-Syrian relations is looked on by our enemies as a bid to confront plots and conspiracies directed against the Arab Nation. Therefore, any joint action by Jordan and Syria will not be to the benefit of the enemy but would rather enhance the Arab Nation's capability and boost its strength.

Al Dustour: Amman meeting strengthen prospect of summit

A brief visit to Jordan by President Assad of Syria ended with an official communiqué, but the nature of the talks was quite clear to all as they covered Arab affairs and bilateral issues. The talks covered the subject of holding an Arab summit meeting, something which gives rise to optimism and revives hopes. The outcome of the talks indicated that Amman and Damascus have taken steps to ensure joint Arab action and a new phase in inter-Arab relations that can end all disputes and differences, and eventually end all weakness in the Arab stand. Needless to say that the Arab situation has become so pitiable and the Arab stand so weak that prompted the common enemies to step up their threats and their acts of aggression against the Arab Nation. President Assad's visit was a turning point since it renewed hopes for a pan-Arab action to save the Arabs through holding a summit meeting for their leaders who can decide on plans and strategies for their future.

Sawt Al Shaab: Amman meetings promise positive results

WE have no doubt that the Hussein-Assad summit held in Amman over the past two days will have beneficial and positive results on the Arab scene. We believe also that the talks between the two leaders will contribute to further bolstering inter-Arab relations and Arab solidarity. This meeting came amidst a critical stage in the region's history and as the Arabs continue to watch Israel preparing for attacks and plotting against the Arab Nation with the aim of achieving further expansion in Arab land. The common Israeli enemy has been counting on continued inter-Arab differences and disputes and has been hoping that the Arabs will never agree on joint action to defend themselves. Jordan and Syria are basic elements in any defence against aggression and for this reason, the Arab masses are looking with hope towards the outcome of this meeting because it can usher in a new phase in relations among Arab states, and can pave the way for ending all differences and divisions. Any Jordanian-Syrian agreement would serve as an example for others to follow and any accord between these two countries is one that can light the way for the rest of the Arab states.

VIEW FROM AMERICA

Aroma of weakness, not strength, is coming from Washington

By Franz Schurmann

SAN FRANCISCO — The Reagan administration is now finally feeling the effects of its blind policy of hostility to the Arab and Muslim peoples of the Middle East. Americans and Britons are being attacked in various parts of the world. The terror of killing is still minor but the terror of fear that grips the millions of Americans who travel abroad or live in foreign countries is immense. No government directs these terrorists. They are angry young men and women who are ready to kill even as they are prepared to die. Many are Arab. But others are from different nationalities. Even far away in Japan, young Japanese terrorists are ready to kill and be killed.

The European governments understand better than the American that terrorism can not be fought by bombing some particular country. They are

dismayed by the cruel and meaningless American attack on Libya. True, they are arresting and deporting numerous Libyans. But those moves seem more designed to placate the frustrated American leaders than to do something concrete about terrorism.

Doubts are beginning to arise in various parts of the world as to the strength and intelligence of the American leadership. The president of my country is a kind man. All who meet him come to like him. But he has a deep and "visceral" hatred of revolutionaries. He does hate Qadhafi. But his advisers, instead of calming him down, encouraged him to the attack. And now they are seeing the horrible results of those moves.

The alienation from America that goes through the Arab and Muslim Worlds is not just due to the bombing attacks.

Nor is it entirely due to the sense that the U.S. is more than over tied to the Zionist cause. The root of Arab and Muslim alienation from America, I believe, comes from their perception that America is no longer acting as a true, just, and especially strong leader.

We here in America can begin to notice an aroma of weakness coming from the American leadership. Are we facing a new watergate? The attacks against key Reagan officials are mounting. A few months ago it was a rightwing attack against Secretary of State George Shultz. Now it is an attack directed against former White House aide Michael Deaver. Deaver has become what we call a "lobbyist" (a promoter of interests) for several foreign governments. That is not uncommon for former government officials. But he represents, among others,

Saudi Arabia from which he, last year, received \$500,000. None has attacked him so viciously as William Safire of the New York Times. Safire has become perhaps the leading Zionist spokesman in the United States.

A new book by former director of the once powerful Office of Management and Budget, David Stockman, has also levelled sharp criticisms at top Reagan officials. The Reagan administration is beginning to have that wobbly look the Nixon administration got as the drumfire of Watergate gained intensity.

This is a crucial election year for the Republicans. They have discovered that aid to Nicaragua "contras" is not a popular issue within the electorate. But bombing Libya is popular, and it pleases the Zionists and so makes raising money for difficult election

campaigns easier.

One year ago, Washington thought that, maybe, the Middle Eastern crisis would abate. Lebanon seemed to be moving towards a settlement. The Iraq-Iran war was stalemated. And the initiative of King Hussein and Chairman Arafat seemed gradually to be getting backing from the U.S. But then, last autumn, crisis came again to the Middle East.

But crisis is once again bringing American involvement. And now the bombing of Libya has involved the U.S. even more. The U.S. cannot "bomb and run." It has killed people in Tripoli and Benghazi. It has blood on its hands like so many others in the Middle East. Having blood on one's hands means one is a part of the political game. And there is no easy way out.

There is all kind of windy talk coming from Israel about

"Marshall plans," secret dealings with this and that Arab leader, and readiness to resume a "peace process." All this means is that the Israelis know that something is going to happen. Maybe important turning points are coming.

The future is always unpredictable and now I wonder whether I was too daring in making some predictions for the future in a commentary for the beginning of this Christian year. Yet one prediction still seems to hold: U.S.-Soviet relations continue to improve. And that will clearly be an important context within which the Middle Eastern changes will take place. It still seems to me that improved U.S.-Soviet relations will benefit the Arab cause even if slightly. It will make less likely that total alliance with Washington which the Israeli leaders so ardently wish for.



Protests unsettle Haiti's new rulers

Haiti rejoiced when the dictator Duvalier fled. But cries of joy are turning to anguish as the interim administration appears to be in real danger of falling apart. Carmate James reports.

THE Haitian government, in a bid to reduce the 60 per cent unemployment rate on the island, has launched a massive road-building programme.

But the launch of the programme, backed by U.S. aid money, has been met so far by violence and confusion with officials responsible for recruitment being forced to run for cover after being attacked by job seekers.

The programme is expected to create 6,000 jobs, but some 10,000 aspiring workers turned up at the Public Works Department in Port au Prince, the capital, on recruitment day.

"This is symptomatic of the problem the government faces," said Mr. Guy Dibert, a Haitian businessman, who travels frequently between his country and the U.S. "Mr. Namphy (Lt.-Gen. Henri Namphy, head of the provisional government) has to deal with all these frustrated expectations, and he apparently cannot."

Lt.-Gen. Namphy, who has led the country since Mr. Jean Claude Duvalier, the former president, fled to France, faces intense pressure from Haitians who want a clean break with the 29-year rule of the former president and his father.

Diplomats in Port au Prince support Mr. Dibert's conclusion that several of the recent public protests and anti-government demonstrations have become increasingly political in their organisation.

They also say that Lt.-Gen. Namphy, recently confined to bed by his doctors who said he was suffering from exhaustion, appears to have been caught in the vice of neo- and anti-Duvalierist anger.

"The Duvalierists are striking back," said one envoy. "They now find that they are losing many of the privileges and wealth which they got when the president was in office. But they are also emboldened by what they see as weakness on Mr. Namphy's part. They think he is vulnerable."

Radio Soliel, the Catholic-run station which played an important role in the rebellion against Mr. Duvalier, reported recently that young Haitians were being paid large sums to take part in public protests against Lt.-Gen. Namphy's government.

The make-up of the government, originally appointed by Mr. Duvalier in one of his last acts as president, has been changed several times following protests that it represented "old guard" Duvalierists. But the administration is still thought to be weak and unsettled.

Lt.-Gen. Namphy also faces opposition within the armed forces, reportedly from politically ambitious officers who sympathise with the old guard.

Under attack from all sides, the

interim administration of Lt.-Gen. Namphy appears to be in real danger of falling apart.

Mr. Dibert said that when doing business with the Duvalier regime, he had found little difficulty in finding people to talk to "provided I came bearing the right gifts."

"But since Mr. Duvalier left, there is total chaos in the government. No-one seems to know who is in charge of what. The government seems to be running around aimlessly like a chicken which has been suddenly beheaded."

But Lt.-Gen. Namphy's administration is not without support — and from some very important quarters.

There is general acceptance that, for all its faults, the interim government, with its base in the army, remains the only body which can maintain law and order. Diplomats say this has contributed to the government's support.

Leading churchmen, who fanned the flames of discontent which unseated President Duvalier, also want the provisional administration to be given some breathing space.

"The church is now between the government and the people, and can serve as an intermediary," said Mr. Joseph Serge Miot, permanent secretary of the Haitian Bishop's conference.

"The church's position is to give the government time to realise its promises," he added.

Archbishop Francois Wolf Ligonde, a cousin of the former president's wife, said the fight against Mr. Duvalier had united Haiti, where about 85 per cent of the people are Catholics.

"The most important thing now is to build a strong nation where everyone can have access to basic necessities — food, housing, education, health and civil liberties," he said.

Some of the country's sternest anti-Duvalierists have apparently also concluded that while Lt.-Gen. Namphy's ruling council is not the most effective government, there is no immediate alternative.

Dr. Hubert de Roncery, a former Duvalier minister-turned-critic, and frequently harassed in the last months of the regime, has also suggested that the interim government be allowed to try to bring some order to running the country.

These critics are clearly hoping the Lt.-Gen. Namphy will complete his assignment as a temporary government and rewrite the constitution and organise elections.

Lt.-Gen. Namphy has not publicly said when this will be, but government officials have suggested that elections could take place between November and December of next year, with a new government taking office by January 1988 — Financial Times news feature.

Summit achieves rare display of unity, but differences remain

By Mark Wood

TOKYO — The Tokyo summit has achieved a rare display of unity and purpose among the seven leaders on key political problems but it could have less success in dealing with simmering economic differences between them.

In contrast to the bland and ineffectual declarations which have often emanated from past summits, the Tokyo talks produced two firm plans of action to address the burning issues of terrorism and nuclear power safety.

The degree of consensus on both topics among leaders not always known for seeing eye to eye caused surprise and delight among their own delegations and spawned a new conviction that annual summits can prove well worthwhile.

"Tokyo has shown that when it comes to the crunch the West can act decisively to confront crises and buried doubts whether these meetings really serve any purpose," one senior European official said.

But the atmosphere of harmony appeared to have been partly achieved by glossing over serious divisions on economic issues such as trade imbalances, currency levels and the best way to maintain continuing growth in the world economy.

Although it fashioned new strategies for closer coordination on finance policies, officials said the central problems remained unresolved.

Five of the leaders emerged

with laurel wreaths from Tokyo after pushing through policies close to their hearts and the only losers appeared to be the Japanese hosts, who failed to secure a clear-cut agreement to push down the dollar.

President Reagan and Britain's Margaret Thatcher won a signal victory in toughening a declaration on international terrorism so that it condemned Libya and threatened penalties for states which abet guerrilla groups.

West Germany secured undiluted support for its sharp response to the Soviet Union's Chernobyl reactor accident in a statement demanding new steps to harden global regulations on nuclear safeguards.

Italy and Canada both crowned months of vigorous lobbying with admission to the exclusive "G-5" club which discreetly debates joint action to influence currency and interest rates.

They join their summit partners — the United States, Britain, France, West Germany and Japan — to form a new group to be known as G-7.

Officials from several delegations said privately that one reason so much was achieved was that the French, who have often proved the major obstacle to joint policy platforms in the past, had played a low-key role in Tokyo.

With its rival leaders, Socialist President Francois Mitterrand and right-wing Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, both present the French group appeared hamstrung in trying to formulate strong positions of its own.

The French themselves said

they considered the summit a great success and put a different interpretation on the reasons for the convivial atmosphere.

"The Americans have learned the importance of consensus and understood that they may come up against one man saying 'no' (no) if they don't stick to the rules or try to spring surprises on us," one French official said.

Reacting to what he saw as Reagan's strong-arm tactics in Bonn last year, Mitterrand blocked a U.S. summit bid to set a date for new global trade talks and announced that Paris would not join his programme for a "Star Wars" space defence.

But overriding the calculated displays of political independence which have often marred past meetings, the leaders in Tokyo were clearly propelled by a shared determination to combat two pressing international problems.

In the statement on terrorism they pledged to coordinate efforts to identify states backing guerrillas, refuse any arms sales to them and seek new ways to penalise them.

By explicitly naming Libya as a country which sponsored international guerrilla action they gave firm backing to Reagan's hard line towards Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi and sent a warning to other states that they could suffer retaliatory action.

"The discussion on Libya went very easily, especially between the Americans and Europeans. We had a very common approach," said Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers, representing the Eur-

opean Community at the summit. West German officials said that differences over the U.S. air attacks on Libya last month had now been buried and that all the leaders were now united in their approach to dealing with the terrorist threat.

Other European officials said it was of vital importance that Japan, a country with good ties to the Arab World, had put its name to the statement.

"It shows that this is not just the Western 'imperialists' gangling up on the Arabs and that terrorism is a real and deep worry, not some kind of excuse for nastiness being used by the Americans and their buddies," one said.

Government spokesmen also voiced satisfaction with the way the summit had dealt with the Chernobyl accident head-on.

Their declaration reproached Moscow for its secrecy over the fire, called for a new convention on reactor safety and insisted on prompt data exchanges on any future power station accident.

"It was important to show the public that we are taking Chernobyl very seriously and doing everything possible to make sure nothing like this happens again. I think we have succeeded," a West German spokesman said.

The only note of sadness in the verdicts of delegation officials on the Tokyo summit was that the leaders had not managed to forge the same common purpose in handling the pressing economic problems which seem likely to cause new strains between them in the months ahead.

Did Israel know of Iran arms deal?

By Jean-Pierre Langellier

Le Monde

TEL AVIV — Did the Israeli government know? And, if it did, who in the government knew? These are the questions being asked here days after the U.S. Justice Department broke up a ring of 17 arms smugglers planning to sell their wares to Iran. Four of those arrested are Israelis — General (retired) Avraham Baram, 53; two businessmen, Israel and Guri Eisenberg (father and son); and William Northrup, an American-Israeli living in Tel Aviv.

Officially, Israel knew nothing of what its nationals were up to. Tel Aviv shrugged off its responsibility with remarkable alacrity. Only a few hours after the arms ring was exposed, the Israeli foreign and defence ministries issued a joint communiqué stating that the government had nothing at all to do with the illegal trafficking in question. The following morning, Menachem Meron, director-general of the Defence Ministry, put out a second categorical denial: "Further clarification shows that Israel is in no way involved in this affair either directly, indirectly or tacitly. The Israelis who have been arrested apparently acted on their own initiative."

However General Baram's statements are heavy with insinuations. This rather murky figure has behind him a fine career as a scrapper which was cut short in an untimely way. As the commander of a tank battalion during the 1967 War, Baram distinguished himself against the Egyptians, notably in the battle of Midfa. Decorated for his valour, he later served as military attaché in Turkey before becoming commander of an armoured division. He had to leave the army in 1980 under mysterious circumstances when his personal firearm was found at the home of a heroin trafficker. That punishment prevented him from becoming Chief of Israeli police. Like hundreds of other high-ranking officers who retire at 45, Baram had a hard time adjusting to civilian life. "I'm going to look for work abroad," he said then. Was he already thinking of the arms trade?

In a logical reflex, Baram is now rightly or wrongly trying to pin the blame on the Israeli authorities. In an interview he gave the Israeli daily "Davar", which managed to get him on the phone minutes before he was transferred from the police station to the main prison in Jerusalem, he hinted he could "sing". "I didn't act in a purely private capacity," he said. "Many people in the military est-

ablishment knew about the activities of the group of which I was an adviser. If the government doesn't intercede on my behalf, I'm extradited to the United States, I'll make embarrassing disclosures. I'm only a cog in the works."

A serious threat or just bluff? As a matter of fact, the Bermuda government is thinking of simply deporting the arrested men to Washington without bothering with extradition procedures. For its part, Israel will offer them special protection.

General Baram revealed he possessed a document authenticated by the Israeli Defence Ministry and testifying to his status as an arms merchant. The Israeli authorities confirm this is true. But they add, there is nothing special about having such a document. A thousand other Israelis have such permits which have to be renewed every year. The permit does not authorise the holder to negotiate arms contracts, which requires special and specific clearance from the defence ministry. This is clearly stated in the permit.

While it is highly improbable that Israeli political leaders are involved in this affair, it is not likely on the other hand to have remained unnoticed by the intelligence services. What remains

to be discovered is the real nature of the affair. Was it an authentic attempt to negotiate an arms deal which was to have been subsequently submitted to the Israeli government for approval? Or was it a scam at the Iranians' expense? The case has several rather bizarre features which raise doubts as to the authenticity of a "contract" exposed by American customs authorities even before it could be concluded.

The traffickers, for example, are said to have promised to supply Iran from Israel with Northrop F-5 fighters, along with other military material. But the Israeli air force does not have these planes. In addition, can it be seriously believed that Tel Aviv would have run the risk of flouting its American protector and secretly delivering American-made planes to Iran when Washington knows down to the last aircraft the composition of Israeli air force? Unless — but that would be a different kettle of fish — Israel and the United States have teamed up to help Tehran, which for the moment nothing permits suspecting.

"Even if Israel wanted to sell military material to Iran," writes Zeev Schiff, the well-known columnist on the paper "Haaretz", "it would not have used the services of a group of Israelis led by a retired general."

Mahdi descendant becomes Sudan's premier

KHARTOUM (R) — Sadeq Al Mahdi, who took over on Sunday as Sudan's prime minister, is a direct descendant of the 19th-century founder of the Mahdist state.

Sadeq, 50, had a short taste of leadership as a young man, serving 10 months as prime minister back in 1966-67.

His Al Umma Party emerged as the largest party in elections last month and reached agreement with other parties on Sunday to form broad-based government to take over from military rulers who ousted President

Jaafar Numeiri last year.

Sadeq tries to bridge the gap between liberal democracy and the legacy of religious loyalty inherited from his great-grandfather, the Mahdi, who ruled from 1885 to 1898.

A feudal and spiritual "sayyid" (lord) with a British education, he appeals equally to intellectuals in the capital and superstitious peasants in the country.

On Islamic law (Sharia), perhaps the most contentious election issue, Sadeq and his party are between the hardline National Islamic Front and the secularists of

the left. The Umma favours a form of Islam compatible with modern times.

In foreign policy, Sadeq holds the middle ground. He is a frequent visitor to Libya and Saudi Arabia but would not get a warm welcome in neighbouring Egypt.

An advocate of multi-party pluralism, Sadeq acquiesced in Numeiri's one-party system for only two years. He spent the rest of Numeiri's 16-year reign in exile, in prison or in political retirement.

Family rivalries, with his uncles Al Hadi and Ahmed and his cousin Wahyiddin, have frequently

defeated Umma unity. But today, Sadeq stands almost unchallenged as political heir to what remains of the Mahdist tradition.

Sadeq says he has tried to broaden Umma's base by turning it into a party of progressive reform.

Sadeq was born on Dec. 25, 1935, in Khartoum's twin city of Omdurman, formerly capital of the Mahdist state, and grew up in the last two decades of British imperial rule.

He was educated by Italian missionaries and later studied politics, philosophy and economics at Oxford University.

The challenge of violence

By HRH Crown Prince Hassan

The following is the full text of the speech His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan gave at a public meeting, held in Stockholm on May 5, in memory of the late Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme. The meeting was held on the last day of a three-day conference of the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues, which the Crown Prince co-chaired with Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan.

This meeting is being held in memory of Olof Palme — a man of peace who courageously defended the cause of justice and human welfare. His life and work will remain a source of inspiration for future generations. It is ironic and profoundly sad that a man like him should have been the victim of the senseless violence which took his life. Let us begin this meeting by observing a minute of silence.

Ladies and Gentlemen,
Distinguished Guests,

In looking at violence, the fundamental question we should ask is how avoidable is this evil? Are we and future generations to reconcile ourselves to its various manifestations and suffer its consequences?

News bulletins are daily reminders of violence and its inherent dangers. We live the continuing cycle of bloodshed and its bitter legacy. More people have been killed during the recent decades of so-called "peace," than in the last two World Wars put together. Repression, injustice and tension around the globe further our despair. All these realities stand against a background of aggressive military posturing by members of the international community to the regional exclusion of no one. So strident is the rhetoric that only the most "spectacular" and "sensational" acts actually make the headlines.

The resort to violence not only eliminates, but also shames dialogue. The belief in the "efficacy" of violence continues to spread. What is most sobering in this sequence of events is that violence makes no distinction in the selection of its victims. Olof Palme is best remembered as a messenger of peace and an international citizen from Sweden. He dedicated his life to the eradication of violence in all its forms. His assassination is further evidence of a malignant ethos from which no country or community is henceforth immune.

Violence has sometimes been defined as a pathological element in human nature. It lies at the very core of our civilised world. Interstate relations have to bring reason to what one world leader has described as "a prison of mutual terror." Yet the arms race continues. The balance of international armament fosters the proliferation of conventional and nuclear arms capable of anni-

hilating the human race. "At the end of the day, the perpetual quest for a balance between military requirements and humanitarian needs remains..."

Superpower rivalries are often the tinder box for the proxy wars endemic to the Third World. The weapons culture is siphoning resources of energies vital to the humanitarian war against deprivation and starvation. The suffering inherent in our fragile human fabric is most visible in the death of up to 18 million people annually from starvation. This is the "silent" violence which should be the major preoccupation of the world community. The pain expressed by its victims remains inaudible against the rising crescendo of terrorism. This harsh reality is largely ignored, while the horrific brutality of terrorism is always assured of an audience.

Terrorism is denounced by some and abetted by others as a sure-quick way of striking fear into the hearts of opponents. The use of violence and terror is vindicated by some from an ideological stance, as in the struggle to liberate disputed territories. Others dismiss and condemn it as the work of power-hungry lunatics. Both guises conceal the nature of what is rightly considered to be a repugnant form of violence. This indiscriminate use of force to inspire fear as a means of achieving political ends takes many forms contributing to the same end. Whether it is perpetrated by individuals or groups, acting individually or with the assistance and sponsorship of states, or by governments themselves, it shares a common feature — it dehumanises still further the materialistic world we claim to share as human beings.

Denounced as immoral, terrorists of whatever persuasion invariably lay claim to a superior morality, a righteousness which sanctifies and legitimises their cause and justifies whatever direct means are considered necessary. Terrorism arrogates for itself the role of judge, jury and executioner. For all its vaunted glory and mystique, it is akin to the philosophy of "might makes right." In this return to savagery only brute force can hold sway. It is surely the antithesis of freedom and cannot be confused with the struggle for liberation from oppression and want. Yet, as we speak of a code of conduct in times of no war and no peace, justice has been

subordinated to power.

Governments have invariably denied that armed groups who challenge their authority have legitimate cause for grievance. Political theorists, since the time of Aristotle, have pointed to a strong correlation between violence and the distribution of wealth and power in society. It can be argued, of course, that no society is free from some degree of institutionalised violence or from mechanisms that militate against sections of the community. However, there is a profound difference between social injustice enforced by law and/or the power of the state, and that injustice which is a direct product of how the state is organised.

Armed struggle movements, of whatever name or interrelationship, are relatively new actors on the political stage. Whereas in a democratic society institutions can be modified by non-violent means, their exclusive resort to violence puts into question the political legitimacy of such movements. Their motives stem from an ideological commitment, however controversial and contrary they may be to the aspirations of many. Violence is used by them to justify their mode of operation and to legitimise their cause through established precedents, regardless of the consequences. Political impotence and lack of dynamism in many of our communities has also contributed to the recourse to violence when no other alternative proved plausible. Violence, whether categorised as political, social or economic, has many antecedents and cannot be divorced from the context in which it occurs. Global measure, rather than direct and diadic actors and actions, are hence to be involved in containing and changing its course and channeling its energies.

Exploitation of the poor, social injustice and draconian measures are, from any perspective, cause for concern. They are an affront to our humanity. Such situations often erupt in violence, leading to more repression and escalating waves of violence and counter-violence. The fact is that we are unable or unwilling to face up to the root causes of conflict and assume collective responsibility to eradicate them.

It is pitiful that international humanitarian laws are as yet partially and only selectively observed and implemented. Few countries are free of human rights abuses. Torture, disappearances, arbitrary arrest and detention, and extrajudicial killings are an everyday reality. The atrocities which accompany human rights violations are readily identifiable as

the progenitor of further violence. It is sad to see, time and again, that human rights abuses "per se" do not provoke the vigorous condemnation they require. Not until the body count rises and the mass graves deepen does the international community begin to take action. By then the situation has become so polarised that there is little possibility of a negotiated or political settlement. Situations such as these remind us of the dire need to adopt a new social order, motivated by the human imperative. "The consonance of reason and humanitarianism is part of the history of natural law ideas and the perennial interplay between reason and goodness on the one hand, and passion and brutality on the other."

Another source of overt violence which is already manifest in many societies is often attributed to such growing phenomena as football hooliganism, communal riots or drug addiction. It stems from the alienation felt by a growing number of disenfranchised, mainly young people, who feel doomed to an existence that offers little hope for improvement. The role of religion is primarily an ethical one, yet it too is becoming increasingly perverted in many parts of the world. Fundamentalisms of many kinds both threaten interreligious dialogue and tolerance, and promote religious strife as an additional means of achieving their ends. This is why it is so important to believe in the merit of interfaith dialogue. In the words of Pope John II in his address to young Muslims in Morocco, "God invites us to change our old practices. We must respect each other in good works in the path of God."

Oppression and violence have many faces, none less reprehensible than the other. Violence, whatever its source, and at whatever level, psychological or physical, is tyrannical and de-

humanising. Violence, at the nuclear level, gives to a few countries the power over all of us. The situation demands strict adherence to and interpretation of international treaties. We have to further recognise that conflict in space will be 'technology led.' Can we demand the observance of humanitarian norms in this ever-changing context? Can 'technology' wonders be fitted to create an operational defense system? What does the future hold in store?

It has been rightly asserted that: "A conflict in which nuclear weapons were used would not help solve any of the political disputes that now divide the two superpowers. It would certainly make it impossible for either to help solve the multitude of territorial and racial disputes and problems of social and economic development which now torment the nations of the world, and in the resolution of many in which both have a common interest."

By the same token, "Humanitarianism in warfare is no longer an ideal exclusive to the Red Cross movement." Humanitarianism in nuclear warfare cannot be the exclusive concern of the nuclear powers. International Humanitarian Law of Armed Conflict affirms that the principle of humanity must dominate the modern law of war. "The question of nuclear weaponry prohibition however, (is still) marked by a consensus of silence."

But we must be wary of self-satisfying glib condemnations. Can we honestly say that we aspire to peace if we close our eyes to the conditions which breed violence?

Speaking at the Tokyo Meeting of our Commission, Professor Jiro Kamishima said, "We are in a global 'dead-end' situation on this planet Earth. In order to make a breakthrough and in order to achieve co-existence under such circumstances, I think we have to

rediscover and enhance the universal qualities that have been cherished in our past, but have been neglected in the course of modernisation."

The need to bring to humanitarian issues the same level of attention that is normally given to economic, political and security problems is the compelling force behind our Commission. In order to increase awareness of a number of specific humanitarian problems and to identify opportunities for their practical resolution, the Commission has produced a number of special reports. These include studies on: Famine, Desertification, Deforestation, Humanitarian Norms in Armed Conflict, Statelessness, Disappeared Persons, Refugees and Displaced Persons, Autochthonous People, and Street Children. Our mandate is essentially humanitarian. We have attempted to interpose ourselves as 'a lobby of the powerless.' We do not intend to reinvent the wheel, but to make the case of numerous international humanitarian bodies and individuals heard and understood at the highest international levels. The clarity of our message and our findings will, we hope, be gradually adopted by policy makers. Though our Final Report may be discussed at the United Nations later this year, I certainly have no intention of relinquishing it totally to the United Nations domain.

It constitutes a first step, based on likemindedness and mutual respect, which may help build a world community governed by the principles of justice and peace. It is not an impossible dream. Amidst despair, there are rays of hope. The aspirations of Olof Palme live on. As he said, "People everywhere are looking for alternatives. They are longing for a different future where they can live without fear... a future where there is reason for hope, where we can help and assist one another."

Randa Habib's
Corner

Radiate, please

NUCLEAR radiation from the Soviet nuclear plant at Chernobyl was reported to have affected many European countries neighbouring the Soviet Union.

In Jordan however, the Royal Scientific Society stated that no traces of radiation were detected in the rain that fell over the country recently.

This is good. But some other concerns remain. We in Jordan import meat, fruits and dairy products from countries that were reported to have been seriously affected by the Soviet accident. Quick measures therefore should be taken in order to ensure that food produced in those countries after April 20 are not imported and used in Jordan. Trucks and planes coming from those countries should be subjected to an inspection for any evidence of radiation contamination.

I am not trying to create panic, but people are already worried and they have all the right to be. I am convinced that the authorities have already taken some measures: It seems that imported veal is not available in many meat shops these days. But, why not make public that the import of meat will be halted for now until the risk of contamination is over. People will certainly be more relaxed to know that whatever they buy has already been examined by the government and therefore carries no risk.

Someone should come out and talk through the media to the public and provide details of precautions taken in Jordan to counter the potential health risks of importing contaminated food.

Finally, a special committee should be formed to ensure that all necessary precautions are being taken.

Water still the key as Oman aims to boost farm output

By Stephen Fidler
Rusur

NIZWA, Oman — The valleys near this busy market town in the Omani interior have seen rain once in the past year, for just half an hour.

Yet in the midst of barren sun-baked mountains, water runs through lush date palm groves, carried by an irrigation system over the mountain.

Falaj Irrigation, in which water flows from shallow tunnels built into the mountains, may have been brought to Oman from Persia in the first century A.D. The Falaj was an extraordinary feat of ancient engineering — the longest of these stone and lime channels runs for 120 kms.

But it is as important now as it was then to life in the interior of this arid land of more than one million people at the mouth of the Gulf.

Repairing and improving Falaj systems all over central Oman is one way the government is spending money to try to expand agricultural output. The aim is to reduce Oman's heavy dependence on oil.

Oil has accounted for 99 per cent of Oman's foreign earnings in recent years, and the collapse in prices this year has underlined the need for a diverse economy.

Farms and fishing provided only 0.7 per cent of exports in 1984. They contributed just 3.3 per cent of Oman's \$9 billion gross domestic product.

Yet 570,000 Omanis live in rural areas, producing limes, dates, bananas and a host of other crops for their livelihood. Oil has financed Oman's transformation from the near medieval state that Sultan Qaboos Bin Said took over in 1970 from his father after a bloodless coup.

But development has been far more dramatic in the capital area around Muscat than in the countryside, and compared with his city brother, the rural Omani is still poor.

The average size of the 83, 200 agricultural holdings in Oman is less than half a hectare of cultivated land. Only 41,000 hectares are under

cultivation, 0.14 per cent of the country's land area. The ministry reckons that roughly another 39,000 hectares are capable of cultivation.

Excluding narrow coastal strip in the south, which benefits from a four-month monsoon, much of this country the size of Italy is mountain or desert.

Rainfall is rare. In 1984, a dry year even for Oman, 2.4 mm of rain fell in the area around the capital.

"Water for crop irrigation is perhaps the principal constraint impeding agricultural development in Oman," said Agriculture Minister Abdulhafiz Salem Rajab last year.

Despite all this, farm production has increased, helped by ministry efforts to improve techniques and infrastructure.

But in the Batinah coastal plain north of Muscat, which provides most of Oman's farm produce, officials say overpumping has increased the salinity of the soil, as sea water encroaches on drained fresh-water aquifers.

Private ownership of water rights makes this problem hard to combat.

Officials say there are hopes that a huge underwater reservoir may extend from Saudi Arabia into Oman. If this could be tapped, it might significantly increase the arable land in the interior.

Mohammed Ridha Bin Hassan Bin Salman, director-general of agriculture, says the government wants to increase the size of farms. Government gifts of land to farmers are now of 10 acres, an economic unit more fitting to modern agricultural methods than the small family farm. But he concedes that raising farm output will be a slow process.

Improving farm production, thus raising living standards in the countryside, is more than an economic objective. Officials say the social aims are equally, if not more, important.

Development over the last 15 years has drawn people to the capital. The area around Muscat has seen at least a tenfold expansion from the 20,000 who lived there 15 years ago.

'We dream to forget,' expert says

By Philip J. Hilt
Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Dreaming is unsettling, the Nobel laureate Francis H.C. Crick has told the National Academy of Sciences.

Explaining a theory about dreams that is gaining popularity, Dr. Crick said that recent experiments with simple networks, such as electrical grids in which each wire is linked to the others, can demonstrate the mechanics and the purpose of dreaming.

Dr. Crick, who shared a Nobel Prize for Medicine in 1962 for deciphering the structure of deoxyribonucleic acid, now works on the biology and mathematics of brain function at the Salk Institute in La Jolla, California.

He told the academy that the brain can be understood only in terms of what groups of neurons can do together, as "neural nets" in his phrase.

Brain cells, called neurons, fire electrical signals. When and how they fire is determined by the ways in which they are stimulated — for example, by seeing, hearing and associated thinking.

Dr. Crick's idea is that so many associations are sparked by experiences, with each neuron connecting to so many others in the network, that the system can become overloaded. Normally, an array of neurons learns "facts" by

learning firing patterns that can be recalled as needed.

But each neuron can be associated with different memories and can trigger connections between one memory and another. The associations can proliferate and create hybrid memories, or fantasies and dreams. They are mixes of elements from real memories, Dr. Crick said.

The memories made during a day need to be separated from spurious associations, the mixing up of bits and pieces from different memories.

Dreaming achieves this separation, Dr. Crick said. He said the events of the day — and virtually all dreams comprise material brought up from the day's mental activity — are replayed many times, and during the replaying the legitimate memories are strengthened while the random associations are weakened.

Dr. Crick calls it "reverse learning." He said he has two slogans to characterise the idea: "We dream in order to forget" and, slightly more accurately, "We dream in order to reduce fantasies and obsession," which he says are mixed, hallucinatory types of recall.

His theory, one of several now being offered to explain dreaming, is undoubtedly too simple to be completely valid, he said, but suggested it as a starting point,

Tin can cities of the developing world

Half the developing world's people will soon be city-dwellers. And as many as half of those will have no proper housing. Their numbers and their poverty reflect the plight of the urban areas. Yet neither they nor the cities where they live are without hope says Alex Marshall, of the U.N. Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) news feature.

A TRAVELLER'S first sight of a city in the developing world is often the shantytown on its outskirts. Different names, "callampas" (mushrooms) in Latin America, "bidonvilles" (tin can cities) in West Africa, tell their own story — but perhaps not the whole story. For the people who live in them, the shantytowns may be the first step on the road to prosperity.

Shantytowns and squatter settlements, with the slums in the older parts of town, may hold half a city's population. In Calcutta about one-third of the city's people live in temporary single-storey huts shared by an average of five families.

Housing, says this year's State of World Population Report from the U.N. Fund for Population Activities, may be beyond the means of up to a quarter of the urban population of a developing country. They become squatters, building shelter wherever they can find space, of whatever materials may be available — packing crates, plastic sheeting, tin cans, leaves, bamboo or mud. They find themselves on the edges of ravines, in swamps or river beds, next

to airport runways or factory walls. In Mexico City, about 1.5 million people live on a dry lake bed which floods in winter and blows up dust-storms in summer. In Lagos, Nigeria, the area of dry land settled has doubled, but the proportion of swamp to dry land used for housing has increased. The gas leak in Bhopal became a disaster because the city had grown right up to the factory gates.

Squatters usually lack water, sanitation, rubbish removal, power or paved streets. What there is costs more; in Lima, Peru, poorer people may spend three times as much money for their water buying it from vendors as people with running water at home, but use only a sixth as much.

Because they have settled on land belonging to others, squatters are frequently harassed by the law, the owners or their neighbours. They do not appear on voter rolls, and their children are often not allowed in school. Even if they can afford to improve their houses, or pave or light their streets, their shaky hold on the land gives them little incentive. In addition, the authorities may not allow it, thinking that if squatters are tolerated, more will move in. Some believe that if squatters are allowed to improve their settlements, property values will go up and force the really poor to move elsewhere.

Yet as the State of World Population Report makes clear, the problem is not going to go away. Cities in developing countries are growing faster than ever before. More than half the population of the developing countries will live in cities by the early years of next century. Housing is going to be one of their biggest problems.

At the same time, about a third of the new occupants of shantytowns, squatter settlements and slums may be migrants from the rural areas — people vigorous and motivated enough to leave their villages to try for a better life in the big city.

Many of them succeed. If they can find work, wages are better than they could ever hope for in the village. More than half the peasants coming into Mexico City in the 1960s found themselves employed in industry. If that fails, or if they prefer, the newcomers may find themselves doing low-status but useful jobs in the "informal sector", running repair shops, recycling urban waste or selling on the street. In developing countries where resources are scarce

even the gleanings from rubbish dumps find their way back into manufacturing industry, the researchers say. Migrants find and fill the gaps in the economy of cities and become an essential part of urban vitality.

Perhaps vigorous life for the cities depends on letting such people stay — after all that was how great cities grew in the past. But the cities may now be growing so fast that they become a danger to themselves and to the rural areas which support them. Some countries are losing people from the land so fast that agricultural production is threatened. The great mass of urban dwellers can keep so much pressure on governments to keep food prices down that the farmers who produce the food can no longer make a living, and — perhaps unwillingly — join the trek to the cities.

The Report points to Hong Kong and Singapore as two cities which have successfully tackled their problems of limited space, poverty and rapid population growth. In these two cities, says the Report "Housing policies were formulated in a framework of successful economic policies and vigorous family planning programmes." Can other cities repeat their success? If not, the future for the cities, and the countries they increasingly dominate, may be bleak indeed.



Housing is an improvised affair for the poorest families. The wealthier can afford more solid constructions (Photo by Maggie Murray-Forman)

Houston hard hit by falling oil prices

By Allen Van Cranebrook
Rusur

HOUSTON — A prayer has been circulating among some employees of Houston energy companies.

"Dear Lord," it reads, "please send us another oil boom. We promise not to screw this one up."

The oil price decline of more than 50 per cent since December has left deep scars on this former boom town, which depends on the energy and related industries for at least one-third of its economic activity.

The dramatic drop in oil prices is reflected in a rising unemployment rate, repossession and auctioning of thousands of homes, spending cuts in the city's budget,

bankruptcies and a shrinking population.

"Things are pretty bad," said one Houston mother of three and wife of an oil company geologist. "The biggest fear of everybody here is how would we get rid of the house if we got transferred, since nothing sells."

"You read in the paper about hundreds of people getting laid off at one company," the woman, who asked not to be named, said. "Some people go to work every day wondering if today's going to be the day."

According to latest figures, unemployment in Houston's five-county metropolitan area jumped to 9.6 per cent of the civilian labour force of 1,612,000 in

February from 7.4 per cent in January and 7.8 per cent a year earlier.

Taking into account layoffs since then, the Texas Employment Commission expects the local rate to rise to double digits for March and April.

Reflecting a severe drop in drilling activity, oil service and supply companies such as Dresser Industries and Hughes Tool Co have each laid off hundreds of workers this year.

Hughes' U.S. rig count fell below 1,000 recently to the lowest level in 13 years, compared with 1,898 operating at the end of 1985.

Offshoots in the Gulf of Mexico, less than 40 per cent of the avail-

able rigs are under contract compared with 73.6 per cent a year ago and 76.6 per cent at year-end. One offshore drilling contractor, Global Marine, filed for reorganisation under federal bankruptcy law in January, and many others are losing money.

"Oil companies are dismantling exploration departments," said Paul Shiverick, an analyst with the New York investment firm Oppenheimer and Co.

The impact of an expected further decline in drilling on the oil service companies "will be catastrophic," he said.

Houston's property market, overbuilt during the energy boom of the early 1980s, is feeling the effect of the slump.

Almost 20 per cent of city centre office space is vacant. Forclosures have been running at a rate of 3,000 per month.

Single-family homes repossessed by lending institutions and mortgage guaranty agencies have been going on the auction block each month.

An estimated 5,000 people attended an auction last month when 169 homes were sold for \$6.3 million.

Anticipating a drop in property tax and sales tax receipts, mayor Kathryn Whitmire recently ordered a hiring freeze to offset a projected \$72 million shortfall in the city's budget for the fiscal year starting July 1.

Houston's private school dis-

trict is cutting spending to head off an estimated \$60 million 1986-1987 deficit.

Their apprehensions find support in forecasts of a reversal of the city's vaunted population growth.

A new report by two professors at Southern Methodist University's business school predicts a 1.6 per cent decline in Houston's population in 1986. The estimated net departure of more than 90,000 people from the city of some 1.8 million "is the result of a contracting industrial base," they said.

Even before the latest oil price drop, Houston had been suffering from the downturn in the industry that began in 1982.

Real Madrid loses 2-0, but retains UEFA Cup

BERLIN (AP) — Real Madrid retained the UEFA Cup and won a record eighth European soccer title despite losing the second-leg final game against FC Cologne 2-0 (1-0) here Tuesday.

Real won the first leg 5-1 in Madrid last week and retained the cup with a 5-3 aggregate victory. Cologne's goals were scored by Uwe Bein in the 22nd minute and Ralf Gienknecht in the 71st.

A crowd of some 15,000 people watched the match in West Berlin's Olympic Stadium.

Real, content to hold on to its big first-leg lead, gave Cologne all the space in the opening minutes.

The game was in danger of slipping out of control after a series of rough fouls.

Referee Robert Valentine of Scotland booked Karl-Heinz Geils and Matthias Hoernerbach

of Cologne within the first 17 minutes, for fouls on Luis Solana and Miguel Chendo Portland respectively.

Pierre Littbarski tackled Hugo Sanchez from behind and Real's Mexican striker had to limp off the pitch in the 20th minute.

He was replaced by veteran Carlos Santillana.

In the 22nd minute, Olaf Janssen centered from the left side and Bein, unmarked some six metres from the Spanish goal, easily beat Real's goalkeeper Augustin Rodriguez with a header into the upper left corner to give Cologne a much-needed early goal.

Three minutes later, Littbarski, the West German international who was playing his farewell game for Cologne before joining Racing Club of Paris, found Bein in front of the Real goal, but Rodriguez saved by diving into Bein's feet.

Real's Argentine striker Jorge Valdano was booked in the 30th for a foul on Geils as the game livened up following Cologne's leading goal.

Two minutes later, Augustin was tested by Klaus Allofs' header following a corner centre from Littbarski, but the Spanish goalkeeper tipped the ball over the bar.

Real's first real shot on Cologne's goal came in the 37th minute, but Santillana's drive from 18 metres went over.

Real's second opportunity came just before the interval, but Emilio Butragueno and Santillana failed to latch onto a pass from Miguel Michel Gonzales that had left Cologne's international goalkeeper Toni Schumacher beaten on the ground.

Cologne maintained the upper hand after the interval and Littbarski almost made it 2-0 in the 47th.

Augustin Rodriguez had to stretch to full length to tip over Littbarski's free-kick shot from 18 metres.

UNRWA staffers to run for the refugees

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Field Staff of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) is holding a sponsored run, similar to those held over the past five years, at Amman Training College in Naqur on Thursday.

The event will be held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah bin Al Hussein and will kick off at 16:00 hours, with 54 competitors of both sexes and all ages expected to take part.

Like similar events staged in 1979-1981 and 1984, this run demonstrates the runners' desire to assist needy refugees not covered by the agency's regular budget. Runners are sponsored for the distance they complete during the race, and sponsors will be provided with receipts.

Prizes will be awarded to the winners of three age groups: runners up to 30 years old, runners between 31-50 years old and runners above 50 years old.

The money raised in this way will be spent on some activities and services for disabled refugees and for summer clubs and camps organised yearly for orphaned refugees.

Dr. Kamal Fahawi, head of a committee supervising the sponsored run, said that 400 children will be staging a sports programme, a national folk dance show and musical performances.

But Juventus Director Francesco Morini, who was one of the club's star defenders during the 1970s and played in the 1973 Champions' Cup final, said: "We hope that when UEFA welcomes back English clubs, Liverpool can come back immediately."

Via an interpreter, he added: "I know it's not possible next year, but it is good for football and for sport that Liverpool should play again." — AP

But at Monaco the man who claims pole position has the enviable advantage of a clear road ahead. He does not have to find space to pass, provided he makes a clean start.

Here, Brazilian Ayrton Senna and his Lotus, fastest qualifier at the last four races and a driver with a score to settle in Monaco, step in.

Senna, then with Toleman, finished second to Prost in the rain-lashed 1984 event. It was only the fifth Grand Prix of his career and it is likely he would have won had the race not been halted prematurely because of deteriorating conditions.

Senna went out early at Imola because of wheel bearing failure, but his second place in Brazil, followed by victory in Spain last

month, kept him joint top of the championship with compatriot Nelson Piquet. Prost is third, two points behind.

Piquet, winner in Brazil and a fast-closing second to Prost at Imola, could also figure at Monaco, along with Williams team mate Nigel Mansell of Britain, another San Marino casualty.

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Prost, however, is not renowned for his prowess in practice, two one-hour timed runs which determine the starting order.

He contents himself normally with top six status, preferring to pick off drivers ahead of him in his usual smooth manner once racing is underway.

But at Monaco the man who claims pole position has the enviable advantage of a clear road ahead. He does not have to find space to pass, provided he makes a clean start.

Here, Brazilian Ayrton Senna and his Lotus, fastest qualifier at the last four races and a driver with a score to settle in Monaco, step in.

Senna, then with Toleman, finished second to Prost in the rain-lashed 1984 event. It was only the fifth Grand Prix of his career and it is likely he would have won had the race not been halted prematurely because of deteriorating conditions.

Senna went out early at Imola because of wheel bearing failure, but his second place in Brazil, followed by victory in Spain last

Monaco favours fast qualifiers

By Ian Kersey
Rover

MONTE CARLO — Reigning world champion Alain Prost goes for a Monaco Grand Prix hat-trick on Sunday and this time he should not run out of fuel in the attempt. A near-empty tank almost cost the Frenchman dearly in the San Marino round of the series at Imola 11 days ago.

Somehow he managed to shake the last drops of petrol out of his McLaren and trundled home in triumph, his first victory in defence of his 1985 crown.

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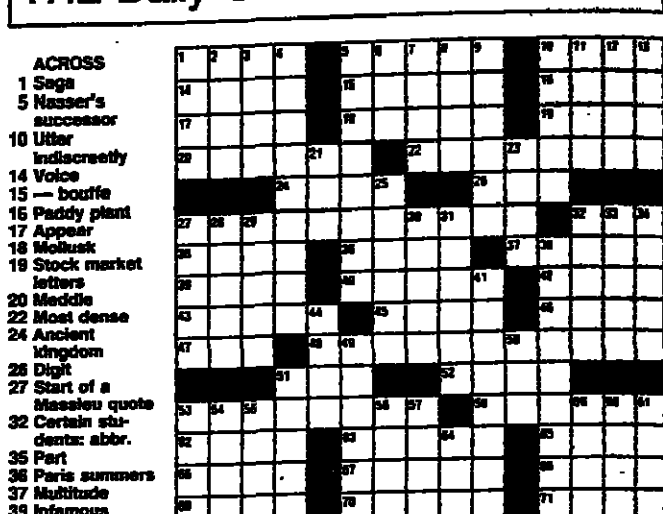
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THE Daily Crossword by Gayle Dean



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YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE SOLVED:

ACROSS
1 Siga
5 Nasser's successor
10 Uter
14 Indirectly
15 Voice
16 — boogie
17 Paddy plant
18 Mollusk
19 Stock market
20 Mollusk
22 Most dense
24 Ancient
25 Kingdom
26 Ditch
27 Start of a
32 Certain sub-
33 Part
36 Paris summers
37 Multitude
38 Infamous
40 Stocking
42 Sabor's saint
43 Alghieri
45 Wedding cake
46 Antony's gal
47 Comp. dir.
48 Part II of
51 Used
52 Leo's locks
53 End of quote
54 Len
55 Singer Mel
56 Metred car
58 Zane
59 Lake Geneva
60 Resort
61 At any time
62 Used word
70 Station
71 Declination
DOWN
1 Steinbeck
2 title direction
3 Appeal
4 Article
5 Adopt
6 Xanthippe's
7 husband
8 Mill, mill
9 center
10 Wick
11 Span
12 Pacific island
13 Clump of
14 brushwood
15 — fishery
16 Sleeve cards
17 Author's work
18 A Whimsy
19 Price
20 Change
21 Level
22 Caesar was one
23 Skirt shape
24 Material
25 High regard
26 Merry
27 Tybalt's
28 slayer
29 Hoax
30 Made anew
31 Weapons
32 Small outfit
33 Vespers
34 Out in front
35 Malt
36 Maze
37 Tied
38 Wander
39 Scumble
40 Kingsmen of
41 baseball
42 Yoked beasts
43 Siney
44 Red chairman

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Jordanian team gains important experience

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian national table tennis team won third place in a tournament held in Baghdad last week, and the result has been described as encouraging by Raja's Naffaa, head of the Jordanian sports mission.

He said that in spite of not winning the tournament, the team members had gained good experience from the event, and more efforts would be exerted to improve the quality of the players and their skill.

According to Mr. Naffaa, the absence of three of the team's best players from the tournament drastically reduced the team's chances for winning. The Jordanian squad lost to two Iraqi teams 5-1 and 5-2, but defeated a Palestinian team 5-2.

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JORDAN PHOSPHATE MINES CO. LTD. EXTENSION OF TENDER NO. (5F/86)

JPMC announces the extension of Tender No. (5F/86) for...
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Wasef Azar
Managing Director



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Cinema RAGHADAN

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THE PROTECTOR (Colour)

Performances: 12:00, 3:00, 6:30, 8:00

Cinema OPERA

Tel: 675573

OUT OF ORDER (Colour)

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One sterling	1.5355/65	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3785/90	Canadian dollars
	2.2025/35	West German marks
	2.4820/30	Dutch guilders
	1.8380/90	Swiss francs
	44.93/98	Belgian francs
	7.0175/0225	French francs
	1510/1511	Italian lire
	165.70/80	Japanese yen
	7.0700/0800	Swedish crowns
	6.9600/9700	Norwegian crowns
	8.1500/50	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	341.75/342.25	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices closed sharply lower after a dull session hit by a rights issue from Harris Queensway and disappointing results from a number of companies, dealers said. The continuing falls on Wall Street and the placing of a large line of Wimpey stock along with nervousness that Marks and Spencer and Allied Lyons might announce rights issues along with their results on Thursday added to the gloom in the market on Wednesday.

One dealer noted that some operators were selling stock to help raise cash to fund recent rights issues including those from Prudential and Saatchi and Saatchi. At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 index was down 22.7 points to a low on Wednesday of 1,613.5. Speculation over a near term cut in domestic interest rates has faltered following Tuesday's higher than expected U.K. M-3 money supply figures for April, despite recent comments from the Tokyo summit pointing towards lower worldwide interest rates. Harris Queensway closed 26p lower at 248 after announcing its two for nine rights issue at 22.5p per share to raise £71.6 million. The company's annual pretax profits of £36.87 million against £27.26 million last year disappointed some expectations. Trafalgar House ended 6p down at 296 after saying it is bidding £80 million for John Brown which closed 5p higher at 28. The Trafalgar bid values Brown shares at around 30p each.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, MAY 8, 1986
GENERAL TENDENCIES: Today's new moon finds you able to wind up with speed whatever has been left undone. You will have considerable energy to do so. Make a new beginning for yourself.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Give more importance to the practical side of your activities and you get better results.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) If you are more active in personal affairs, you get fine benefits now. You can reach your most cherished goals.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Get busy clearing up any unfinished business, and then make concrete plans for greater success in the future.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Small changes with present activities can spell greater success with them or a bit more work.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Handle matters of an official nature as well as you have done in the past, or more so. Be happy this evening.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) That project you have liked so much is about to be completed, so start looking for another one.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You have made promises to the one you love, so be sure to keep them, and handle them well. Confer with that expert in business.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Show how well you have handled important matters to those who count and then state your new ambitions.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Be certain to finish one segment of your work before going to the next one, and be thorough and precise.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You can enjoy an amusement that has proven satisfactory in the past. Be happy at home this evening.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You have a myriad of duties to attend to in the morning, but later place your efforts in a different direction.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You have much shopping and correspondence to attend to before you can get into that new course of action that interests you.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will understand finances and how best to make use of money so smart education along lines of banking, business and the like in order to make the most of this latent talent which cannot be visible to others. Sports can be very beneficial to this life.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, MAY 9, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You are not under favorable influences for "flying high," but if you put aside visionary ideas and get into the nitty gritty of practical problems, they can be solved in a sensible manner.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Study your debts and income and then make collections and pay your bills wisely and efficiently.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Pamper yourself or buy something new to get your appearance improved for the busy weekend ahead.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Many duties need your personal attention, so plan your time well and handle them efficiently.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Plan how to have better rapport with your friends and be of more service to them. Be sure they are of fine character.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Any civic or credit affairs that need your personal handling should not be neglected today.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Be sure you have first studied every item of some new course of activity if you are going to gain the finest benefits from it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Before you get into that business outlet, be sure to get the advice of an expert and be on the safe side.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may not agree with a higher-up about some work you have to do, but follow through without question.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Your work may seem tedious, but get it done steadfastly and gain the benefits that accrue.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Make recreational plans for the days ahead and set up appointments. Clear your desk of lingering work.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Be more willing to do what your family expects of you even if you prefer to pursue other matters.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get busy keeping promises you have made, even if it means much traveling about. Take it easy tonight.

Banks' lending recedes as bond markets register big boom in '85

BASLE, Switzerland (R) — World borrowers made heavy use of the bond markets in 1985, neglecting traditional bank loans, a study published Tuesday showed. In a quarterly report on banking trends, the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) also said new lending by commercial banks to developing countries remained low, despite an upturn in the final three months of the year.

The BIS said new international lending last year reached a gross \$234.3 billion, up 43.3 per cent from 1984.

New bond issues set a record in the first half of the year and then topped that in the second half for a total of \$163.6 billion, up 51 per cent and exceeding the total of all types of new borrowing in 1984. By contrast, new syndicated bank loans, the mainstay of international banking since the early 1970s, slumped to only \$21.2 billion last year, down 42 per cent from 1984 and off nearly 80 per cent from the peak of \$100.5 billion in 1982.

In the final six months, new syndicated loans totalled only \$8.8 billion, the lowest half-year figure for 15 years. The balance was made up of new instruments, mainly bond issues backed with lines of credit.

The report also showed that 77 per cent of all new borrowing went to the United States and 17 other industrialized countries and off-shore banking centres, compared with only 67 per cent in 1984. By contrast, non-oil developing countries took only six per cent of new lending last year, against 9.8 per cent the year before.

The BIS said international bank lending in the form of credits showed a record quarterly rise of \$166 billion during the final three months of 1985, but the increase was due overwhelmingly to banks lending money to each other. Loans to final borrowers were up by \$40 billion, the largest quarterly rise in two years.

Non-oil developing countries got \$5.2 billion of new bank loans in the fourth quarter, up from \$2 billion in the preceding three months. In the full year, new loans were up \$8.5 billion against \$10.4 billion in 1984.

Heavily indebted Latin American countries got \$1.8 billion in loans in the fourth quarter, reversing a \$600 million third quarter decline. For the full year, new lending to Latin America was a modest \$1.3 billion, against \$5.7 billion in 1984.

Cracks between new managers of world economy begin to appear

TOKYO (R) — No sooner had the seven Tokyo summit nations been appointed managers of the world economy than some were trying to resign while others issued contradictory orders to the currency markets supposedly under their charge.

West Germany effectively signalled Wednesday that it wanted out when it said the summit pact would not amount to much because of the difficulty of implementing joint decisions.

"The question will always be whether national politics will allow the finance ministers to put into effect what they have learned," said West German Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg.

Currency markets, struggling to fathom what it all meant, swung even more wildly than usual during the summit, first pushing the dollar sharply lower on comments by Britain, then pulling it back up after statements from West Germany.

The United States said its agreement with the other six — Britain, Canada, France, Italy, Japan and West Germany — could herald the dawn of a new economic era where major nations would work together to manage their economies and currencies.

"This will help reduce trade imbalances by tackling their underlying causes and promote greater exchange rate stability," President Reagan said.

But the ink was hardly dry on the summit's economic communiqué before some of the nations were playing down its significance.

"I would not talk of a breakthrough here," Mr. Stoltenberg said, echoing comments made earlier by the British minister, Mr. Nigel Lawson.

U.S. officials admitted that the agreement would only work if the countries involved wanted it to. "What can you do in any international body or arrangement where one country decides it's going to stiff (renew) on the other?" a senior Reagan administration official said.

Even if the summit seven agreed on what it all meant, they must still decide what economic goals should be set. Judging by comments made by various delegations during the summit, this will not be easy.

Mr. Lawson was the first to send the currency markets reeling when he said on Monday that most of the Group of Five, which comprises all the summit members except Canada and Italy, thought the yen should go higher in the medium term.

The foreign exchange markets duly reacted by pushing down the dollar against most currencies, particularly against the yen.

But the very next day, the dollar soared back upwards after Mr. Stoltenberg said he felt it had fallen enough and warned that West Germany might back its conviction with intervention in the foreign exchange market.

Mr. Stoltenberg contended that a further dollar drop would "put a question mark over all the (economic) achievements of the last year" by stoking U.S. inflation

through higher prices for American imports.

U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker disagreed. "We are not concerned," he told a television interviewer.

Foreign exchange dealers concluded that if the major countries of the world were running a managed currency float, the managers did not know what they were doing.

Mr. Lawson highlighted another difficulty for any "managed float" of currencies when he complained that the markets had misread statements he made last month in Washington calling for a stronger yen over the medium term.

"I think that there was some misunderstanding of my remarks at that time in the context of the time scale in which I was talking," he said, apparently referring to the sharp rise of the yen in the short time since his remarks.

The final word went to British leader, Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, who, as she herself asserts, rarely misses a chance to get the last word.

"Fixed exchange rates are something we shall not see in our time again," she told reporters at the summit finale.

Major nations were only able to stage-manage a fall of the dollar against the yen since September because the value of the Japanese currency was out of line with economic reality, she said.

The yen rose more than 30 per cent against the dollar over the period.

Murdoch launches new broadcast network

LOS ANGELES (R) — Media magnate Rupert Murdoch's Fox film and television company Tuesday announced the formation of a fourth U.S. television broadcast network.

Fox Inc. Chairman Barry Diller said the Fox Broadcasting Co. (FBC) network would compete directly with existing broadcast networks — CBS, NBC and ABC — by delivering a satellite pro-

gramming service to independent television stations.

He told a news conference Fox had committed more than \$100 million to launch FBC, adding that it would take years to build the network into a competitive force in the industry.

"We're humbly confident and we're very patient. We've made a very big investment and believe it

will take time, but we have the time and the resources to make it work," he said.

Mr. Diller said comedienne Joan Rivers had been signed to a three-year contract as the new network's first star. She will host a talk show that will challenge the late-night supremacy of her former boss, Johnny Carson, and his "tonight show."

OPEC launches fresh bid to enlist non-members help

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwaiti Oil Minister Ali Al Khalifa Al Sabah flew to Egypt Wednesday in a fresh OPEC bid to enlist the help of non-OPEC oil producers to stabilise the oil market.

Sheikh Ali's visit marks a new round of contacts with non-OPEC producers by a five-man team set up by the 13-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) at emergency talks in Geneva last month.

The team includes Saudi Arabia's Oil Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani, who warned Tuesday that "without cooperation between OPEC members and non-OPEC producing countries we will never be able to bolster the international oil market."

Sheikh Yamani attended a meeting in Kuwait Tuesday of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC).

Arab oil analysts say the fall of Norway's conservative-led coalition government, and well shut-downs and oil industry layoffs in the United States serve as danger signs to at least some producers outside the OPEC of the potential impact of sustained low prices.

Norway, with fellow North Sea producer Britain, has opposed any move to cut output to help OPEC shore up prices and has borne much of the blame from OPEC for the world glut.

Norway's coalition resigned after losing a parliamentary vote on a proposal for a small rise in gasoline tax, considered necessary to help cope with plunging oil income.

Although Britain continues to refuse to consider cuts in output as a coordination of policy with OPEC, Sheikh Ali was quoted Tuesday as saying OPEC had not given up on the idea of negotiating the help of the North Sea producers.

OPEC's Venezuelan President Arturo Hernandez Grisanti said

after April's talks the group was seeking cuts in output of about one million barrels daily (b/d) from non-OPEC producers. This was to match an agreement by OPEC to slice production by a roughly similar amount to 16.3 million b/d in the third quarter, before restoring output to 17.3 million b/d.

Gulf industry sources said Mr. Grisanti would visit Mexico soon, and the oil ministers of Indonesia and Nigeria would visit Malaysia and Angola as part of the new round of contacts. Egypt, Mexico, Malaysia, Angola and Oman were guests at a special OPEC meeting in Geneva in March, and reportedly were asked for a 20 per cent reduction in output. Together, they pump 4.5 million b/d.

The sources said the Saudi and Kuwaiti ministers apparently are responsible for contacts with other non-OPEC exporters, presumably including North Sea countries, China and the world's biggest producer the Soviet Union.

They said however, this did not necessarily imply visits and diplomatic overtures may be made via respective embassies.

Diplomats said the Chernobyl nuclear reactor disaster in the Soviet Union removed pressure on OPEC to seek Moscow's support in curbing supplies. They expected at least temporary shut-downs for checks of much of the Soviet nuclear network, which meets an estimated 10 per cent of the country's electricity needs.

"I think they'll have to burn oil that otherwise would be sold abroad. They won't make up all the shortfall with oil, but it will certainly enter the picture," said one.

Industry sources said the eventual commitment of the non-OPEC support for OPEC would hinge on the discipline shown by OPEC members in adhering to cutbacks, and noted the group had yet to resolve the thorny question of quotas for individual members.

The local daily Al Qabas quoted Iraqi Oil Minister Qasem Ahmad Taqias saying he insisted on a 13.1 per cent share of the overall production ceiling. This would give Iraq much more than its existing quota of 1.2 million b/d, and jeopardise the chances of agreeing to new quotas.

Meanwhile, crude oil production in the 24 main industrialised countries fell nearly one million b/d in April because of a strike which halted Norwegian offshore activity for three weeks, the International Energy Agency (IEA) said Tuesday.

Total Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) output was 16.3 million b/d in April compared with an average of 17.1 million in the first quarter, the IEA said in its monthly oil market report.

North Sea oil output dropped to 3.2 million b/d in April from a first quarter average of 4.4 million due to the Norwegian caters' strike, while production in other OECD areas was little changed.

It forecast that total oil supplies from outside OPEC would average 28.5 million b/d in 1986.

The report was prepared before the Chernobyl nuclear reactor disaster in the Soviet Union and an IEA spokesman said the accident could affect Soviet oil exports to the OECD region.

The IEA said first estimates for April showed oil output by OPEC countries was around 17.3 million b/d, little changed from the first quarter average.

Scientists forge links between Egypt, Israel

WASHINGTON (USIA) — Despite strained relations between Egypt and Israel, a little known regional cooperation programme is quietly promoting peace and understanding between Egyptians and Israelis.

Using around \$5 million or only one tenth of one percent of annual U.S. aid to Egypt and Israel, the Middle East Regional Cooperation Programme (MERCP) is a scientific research programme "that builds on human relationships," according to Mr. Peter MacPherson, administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

Speaking at MERCP's three-day conference that ended May 6, MacPherson said the programme has enabled people from countries which have been at war for decades to work together in harmony.

"Through this process over the past seven years, Arab and Israeli scientists have found how much they have in common," he said.

Set up by the U.S. Congress in 1979 and funded and administered by USAID, MERCP sponsors projects in arid land agriculture, marine science and infectious diseases.

Among MERCP's notable achievements are:

— An arid lands project that produces new, more nutritious strains of fodder for goats and sheep, salt-tolerant varieties of crops, and new breeds of goats and sheep that produce more milk and meat and yet are suited to a dry environment. The project is coordinated jointly by San Diego State University and the ministries of agriculture in Egypt and Israel.

— An infectious diseases project that focuses on malaria, leishmaniasis (a skin disease spread by the sandfly) and rift valley fever. A high point of this programme came in 1982 when an outbreak of leishmaniasis occurred in Egypt just after the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. The Egyptian authorities took the risk of inviting Israelis to come help battle it, even bringing them to remote areas to work in the field. Jointly, they controlled the outbreak. The project is run jointly by Hebrew University's Kivun Centre in Israel, Ain Shams University in

Egypt and the National Institute of Health in the United States.

— The marine sciences project has kept track of erosion on the Mediterranean shoreline, stemmed the explosive growth of weeds in some of the region's lakes, and bred improved strains of commercial fish. The project is jointly coordinated by the Egyptian Academy of Scientific Research and Technology, the Israel Oceanographic Limnological Research Ltd., with overall management provided by the New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium.

A more recent project called Trinitational Agricultural Technology Exchange and Cooperation (TATEC) is similar to but not overlapping the arid land project. It studies higher yields through crop rotation and water use, the medicinal uses of desert flora and the solar heating of soils to control bacteria and pests in the earth. The project is overseen by the Office of International Cooperation and Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the agriculture ministries in Israel, and Egypt.

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF



JUMBLE

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: "O O - O O - O O"

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: NOISE ENACT COOPER BROOCH
Answer: In heavy traffic, there's always someone trying to do this—HORN IN

Colombo blast kills 10

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — A powerful bomb exploded in downtown Colombo on Wednesday, killing at least 10 people and damaging Sri Lanka's central telegraph office, authorities said.

An outlawed youth group claimed responsibility for the blast. About 62 people were hospitalized, and police said dozens more suffered less serious injuries. Authorities said they feared others may still be trapped under the debris.

Police commandeered vehicles to take the wounded to hospitals, said S.G. Samarasinghe, an official of the Post and Telecommunications Ministry, who was inside the office when the explosion occurred about 9:30 a.m. (0400 GMT).

Police sealed off the entire area around the telegraph office, located in a telecommunications complex housing the ministry. Meanwhile, an outlawed Sinhalese youth group claimed responsibility for the bombing in a telephone call to the London bureau of the Associated Press.

"We did it because we haven't had elections for the past nine years," said the caller, claiming to represent the ultra-left Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (People's Liberation Front).

The group organized a bloody youth insurrection in 1971 in

which 18,000 people reportedly perished. Its chief, Rohana Wijeweera, who challenged President Junius Jayewardene in the 1982 presidential elections, went underground last year.

Police earlier said they suspected separatist guerrillas belonging to the small Tamil minority planted the bomb under the counter where telegrams are delivered by the public.

The Sinhalese group had been linked by authorities to terrorist acts. Officials claim the underground group has links with leftist Tamil rebels.

The explosion blew out the front section of the building facing the Information and Tourism Ministry in a crowded Colombo district. The wooden first-floor ceiling of the telegraph office collapsed.

Post and Telecommunications Minister D.B. Wijetunge's office was partly damaged in the blast, which also wrecked the public relations office.

Army bomb experts were summoned to the scene after authorities found a briefcase that they thought might be packed with

another bomb. The briefcase was blasted by the army, triggering a small explosion, but authorities later reported it contained no explosives.

The government said the explosion did not damage the telecommunications facilities at the complex, which links Sri Lanka with the outside world.

The blast spurred fears of a Sinhalese backlash against the Tamils, prompting many downtown shops and businesses to close.

Witnesses said panic-stricken citizens fled the scene following the explosions. Debris was strewn over the place.

"Several people have been seriously injured. We have not yet been able to identify the dead," said Dr. Lucian Salgado, Colombo's judicial medical officer.

Dr. Salgado said six bodies had been brought to his morgue and that arrangements were being made to bring the other four bodies from the scene.

The latest bombing came four days after a time bomb exploded aboard an Air Lanka jetliner at Colombo airport, killing 15 people and tearing the Lockheed Tri-star in two.

That explosion occurred as passengers were boarding the plane for a flight to the Maldives Islands, an Indian Ocean resort.



Gaston Defferre

Gaston Defferre dies

MARSEILLE, France (R) — Gaston Defferre, 75, Socialist mayor of Marseille for the past 30 years and a leading figure in post-war French politics, died in hospital Wednesday after injuring himself in a fall.

Doctors said he died in intensive care at Marseille's Timone Hospital at 11:15 a.m. (0915 GMT).

He was rushed to hospital at dawn Tuesday after he fell and injured his head at home, apparently during a stroke, and never regained consciousness.

Mr. Defferre, a Socialist millionaire, was the undisputed boss of the turbulent Mediterranean city and much of southern France.

He ran twice for the presidency, in 1965 and 1969, in addition to his roles as government minister, parliamentarian and newspaper proprietor.

Serving as mayor of Marseille without a break since 1953, Mr. Defferre cracked down on the drug smugglers whose heroin laboratories had turned the city into the key link in the "French connection."

A combative figure with a mane of white hair, he hung on to the town hall against challenges from the Communists and then from the right, recently allied to the anti-immigrant National Front.

Reagan still undecided on 2 Poseidon subs

TOKYO (AP) — President Ronald Reagan said Wednesday that he orders the destruction of two Poseidon nuclear submarines, it will be an economic and not an arms-control decision.

Reagan said the question before him is whether the submarines are worth refurbishing or ought to be put out of action because their remaining lifespan is so short.

At a news conference, Mr. Reagan said he has not decided what to do. "The thing is a practical question," Mr. Reagan said.

Last month, U.S. officials said the two Poseidons would be dismantled in order to keep the United States under a 1,200 limit on long-range nuclear missiles, prescribed by the unratified SALT II treaty, when a new Trident submarine begins sea trials later in the month.

The process would be carried out over a number of months, under a National Security Council directive approved by Mr. Reagan, the officials said.

The officials, who insisted on anonymity, said Mr. Reagan had decided to go "the extra mile" (work harder) for arms control over the advice of all his senior advisers except Secretary of State

George Shultz and Paul Nitze, the president's chief consultant on arms control.

The other advisers were said to have urged Mr. Reagan to surpass the limit as a way of responding to alleged Soviet violations of the 1979 Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty and other arms control accords.

By the end of the year, however, as air-launched cruise missiles are placed on more B52 bombers, the United States might crack another SALT II ceiling — a 1,320 limit on the combined total of strategic nuclear missiles and bombers carrying them.

"A decision has to be made that has nothing to do with the SALT treaty restraints," Mr. Reagan said. "The thing is a practical question of whether it is better economically, and for our strength, to try to refurbish two aging submarines or whether to put them out of action"

In running for the presidency in 1980, Mr. Reagan denounced the SALT II treaty and other major arms control accords. But after his election he pledged not to undercut them, provided the Soviets also observed treaty provisions.

Bangladesh holds polls amid charges of rigging

DHAKA (R) — Bangladesh Wednesday held its first parliamentary election since 1979 amid opposition charges of widespread fraud and violence by the government-backed party.

Voting began at 8 a.m. (0200 GMT) for 300 seats in a parliament now suspended under martial law. The government-backed Jatiya Party was widely expected to win a commanding majority.

At least four people were reported killed in pre-election violence and more than 425 people injured. One man died in the port city of Chittagong and the opposition Awami League said three party workers were killed in the southern part of Khulna.

The Home Ministry said 340,000 regular and paramilitary policemen and border guards were deployed to maintain order and watch the 89,799 polling centers. Polling ended at 5 p.m. (1100 GMT).

There was no reliable early indication of the turnout which observers expect to be between 30 and 55 per cent of an officially

registered 47,876,979 voters. One main opposition party is boycotting the election.

President Hossain Mohammad Ershad, the army chief who seized power in a 1981 coup, voted about 9 a.m. in Dhaka cantonment. He said in a television address Tuesday night the election would lead eventually to the restoration of constitutional government.

As the balloting progressed, opposition party leaders accused Jatiya workers of seizing polling stations, rigging votes and intimidating workers and voters with vanloads of young toughs.

There were also reports of polling stations closing early or not opening at all. Reuter correspondents were shown official ballots which had been discarded in the gutter.

"Our party workers have been thrown out and some hurt," said Sheikh Hasina Wajed, leader of the Awami League.

"When I called the home minister to complain I was told he was playing golf with the president," she told Reuters at her headquarters in Dhaka's old city.

COLUMNS 7G8

Indian book says Christ was hanged

NEW DELHI (R) — Jesus Christ was crucified, not hanged, despite what is written in official textbooks in the south Indian city of Madras, a member of parliament said Wednesday. V. V. Srinivasan told the upper house some school children in the city were taught that Christ died on the gallows not on the cross, the universal symbol of Christianity. Human Resources Development Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao expressed surprise at the mistake and said he would look into it.

Israelis told to shower with friends

TEL AVIV (R) — Israelis, facing the most serious drought for more than a decade, are being urged by the state water authority to shower with a friend. Authority spokesman Mordechai Yakobovitch said shared showers and all other water saving measures should be adopted following the third successive winter of low rainfall.

Actress blocks sale of magazine

ROME (R) — Italian film star Gina Lollobrigida has taken legal action to ban the sale of a magazine that published what it said was a nude photograph of her sitting on a tree trunk, a Rome magistrate said Wednesday. All sales of the latest copy of the weekly gossip magazine Novella 2000 were banned by magistrate Domenico Bonaccorsi Tuesday pending hearing of her case. Novella Bonaccorsi told Reuters the photograph, published on the front cover, was probably of another woman and the magazine had been banned because it damaged the star's credibility. The photograph accompanied an article saying the star, renowned for her sultry sex appeal, used to pose nude at the start of her Hollywood film career in the 1950s. "Everyone knows that I have always refused to pose nude," the 58-year-old star told reporters. She is also suing the magazine's editor for defamation.

Socialites bulldoze new \$3m mansion

DALLAS (R) — A brand-new three million dollar antebellum mansion, which did not meet with the approval of its wealthy owners, has been razed by a wrecking crew that included five bulldozer-riding Dallas socialites. The women paid \$75 each at a charity auction to climb aboard the bulldozer and help reduce the 1,765 square metre mansion to a pile of rubble. The bizarre demolition job was ordered by the Dallas owners of the home, John and Paulette Post, who were unhappy with the new mansions wall cracks and did not trust state assurances given by the contractor and city inspectors. Jerry Goolsby, a spokesman for the contracting firm that built the luxurious mansion, claims Post disliked the design "so he's knocking it down and building another one to suit his wife."

'Dirty Harry' leads fight for ice cream

CARMEL, California (R) — Film star Clint Eastwood has fulfilled a promise made when he campaigned for mayor of Carmel — the city will allow more ice cream shops. Eastwood, 55, presided over his first council meeting and it took only a few minutes for members to decide to consider applications for new parlours. Under previous mayors, new ice cream shops were prevented from opening in the tiny California coastal resort because of strict ordinances on water use and the sale of take-out food. "I hope I never again have to read about ice cream comes," said Eastwood, star of a series of Dirty Harry movies. He appeared to relish his role as the \$200 a-month mayor of the resort, 125 kilometres south of San Francisco, grinning broadly as he wielded a gavel.

Irish Protestant campaign splits

BELFAST (R) — In the first significant break in a united Protestant campaign of opposition to the Anglo-Irish pact on Northern Ireland, Belfast City Council has voted to oblige a high court order to resume normal business.

Five Unionist (Protestant) councillors broke ranks to vote with Catholics Tuesday night and ensure that a motion in favour of normal work was passed by 27 votes to 23.

Protestants, who favour the north's continued union with Britain, have prevented the council from operating by adjourning all meetings since the controversial accord was signed last November.

Last week the high court threatened the Unionist-dominated council with a £25,000 (\$38,000) fine and members with a five-year ban from holding public office unless they agreed to resume normal business within 12 days.

There were angry scenes and cries of "traitor" as Unionist Councillor Alfie Redpath proposed Tuesday night's motion, saying: "I don't intend to come into conflict with Her Majesty's courts."

"Our protest against the Anglo-Irish agreement must not be a protest of rebellion, because our people are not rebels." Unionists fear that the accord giving Dublin a limited say in the

province's affairs, which was negotiated over their heads, will lead eventually to its reunification with the overwhelmingly Catholic republic in the south.

As Unionists hurled insults such as "paid papists" at each other, hardline Protestant politician George Seawright called Redpath "a coward who is afraid to face his bank manager."

When a member of Sinn Fein, political wing of the Irish Republican Army (IRA) guerrilla force, tried to speak, some Unionists drowned him out by kicking their tables and thumping their seats.

Sabah chief sworn in after landslide victory

KOTA KINABALU, Malaysia (Agencies) — Joseph Pairin Kitigan, a Christian, was sworn in Wednesday as Sabah's chief minister after a crushing election victory over the mainly Malay Muslim opposition.

Mr. Pairin's Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS), which derives its support mainly from Kadazan tribesmen, took 34 of the 48 state assembly seats in the east Malaysian state's second polls in just over a year. The party held 25 seats previously.

The leading opposition party, United Sabah National Organisation (USNO), lost four seats, retaining 12, while the multi-racial Berjaya Party and an ethnic Chinese-based party took one each.

Mr. Pairin said he would use his overwhelming mandate to push through a bill banning defections, which have plagued politics in Sabah for years.

Political analysts said his resounding victory in six predominantly Muslim areas held by the opposition put him in a good position to resolve bitter Muslim-Christian rivalry which had paralysed the PBS government since polls in April 1985.

Five people were killed and about 20 injured in a wave of arson, bombings and rioting by Muslim activists in Sabah in March.

The USNO-led activists said PBS discriminated against Muslim civil servants and was anti-Islamic.

PBS denied this. The analysts told Reuters Muslim reaction to their defeat in the next few days was crucial to determine whether PBS could rule without interruption for the next five years.

But USNO Secretary-General, Hamed Mustapha told reporters his party would accept the verdict of the people.

Police said they were on the alert for disturbances and would move in to quell any unrest. Earlier they reported four small bombs, which caused no damage or injuries.

The analysts said PBS won the vote through solid Kadazan support bolstered by a massive swing of ethnic Chinese votes in many areas. Previously, many Chinese had voted for Berjaya, which is supported by the federal government.

Kadazans, who are mainly Christian, form a third of the state's 1.2 million population, Malays and Bajaus another third and Chinese about 20 per cent.

The analysts said USNO and Berjaya suffered because their image had been tarnished by the involvement of some of their leaders in the March unrest.

The PBS on Wednesday rejected a proposal called for a coalition with Malay-Muslim dominated parties.

Mr. Pairin told a news conference Wednesday that "with this sufficient majority there is no need for a coalition."

Sikh extremists kill 6; police block Hindu protests

NEW DELHI (R) — Sikh extremists killed six people including four Hindu bus passengers in Punjab Wednesday and police opened fire to disperse Hindus rioting in protest at the latest wave of killings.

The deaths were the latest reprisal attacks by Sikh hit squads since security forces last week raided the Golden Temple in Amritsar, the Sikhs' holiest shrine, to hunt down extremist leaders.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) said five gunmen in a white car stopped a private bus near Tarn Taran, a town 25 kilometres from

Amritsar, and killed four passengers. They struck again two kilometres further on, killing two people.

Police said the Hindu victims were separated from other passengers and gunned down.

In Tarn Taran police fired to disperse Hindus who beat up a man and set a shop ablaze as they tried to force shops to close in protest at the deaths. There were no casualties in the shooting.

Many of the 36 victims of Sikh hit squads in the past week have been minority Hindus, nearly half killed in or near Tarn Taran.

Diana 'feeling better' after fainting at Expo 86

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (R) — Prince Charles passed off a fainting attack by Princess Diana with a joke about sex feelings and said she was feeling much better.

The 24-year-old princess fainted while touring her fifth pavilion of the day Tuesday at the giant Expo 86 world fair and was rushed back to her hotel in a conveyer of cars to rest.

Looking tired but well again, she attended a farewell dinner Tuesday night, four hours after she had fainted.

In a speech to an audience of

young people, Prince Charles said Princess Diana was feeling better.

"It is really due to the extremely advantageous conditions that pertain in British Columbia — the weather and the general fertile conditions, which have ensured she is about to have sextuplets, which is really why she fainted," he said.

"It's not actually true," Prince Charles added hastily.

Asked earlier whether the princess might be expecting a third child, the royal couple's press secretary, Vic Chapman, said: "The princess is not pregnant."

Ethiopian-Somali peace talks begin

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Ethiopia and Somalia began peace talks on Wednesday that they hope will end the virtual state of war that has existed between them for nearly a decade.

Foreign ministers from the two countries declared in separate statements that the time was ripe for a settlement and that with goodwill and understanding they could end a conflict that had stretched the resources of their countries and heightened tension in the strategic Horn of Africa.

The talks are designed to end the simmering border dispute over the Ogaden desert that led to war in 1977, when Somali forces invaded the Ethiopian-held territory populated mainly by ethnic Somali nomads.

After a stunning advance the Somalis were beaten back by the Ethiopians, supported by Cuban troops and freshly armed by the Soviet Union.

Ethiopian Foreign Minister Goshu Wolde said in a statement opening the talks that progress could be made if Somalia recognised existing frontiers, guaranteed during colonial times and since confirmed by the United Nations and the Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

Since independence in 1960 Somalia has laid claim to the Oga-

djen, part of north-east Kenya, and Djibouti, where ethnic Somalis live.

Mr. Goshu said the two countries had an historic choice to make between a past marked by death and destruction and a future characterised by peace and mutual cooperation.

Somalia's Foreign Minister Abdul Rahman Jama Barre acknowledged the complex nature of the issues at stake and said his country was ready to approach its differences with Ethiopia with an open mind and sincerity of purpose.

"Through patience and mutual goodwill and understanding we will be able to achieve meaningful results," he declared.

However, he warned that Somalia's efforts in the past to find a negotiated settlement to the Ogaden dispute had always ended in failure.

The talks are expected to last for several days and went into closed session after the opening statements by the two foreign ministers.

They form part of a joint commission set up by Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam and Somali leader Mohammed Siad Barre during their first meeting in Djibouti in January.

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

NAME GAME
By James E. Hinkle, Jr.

ACROSS
1. Last entire
6. Car, title
10. Speaks
15. Last, title word
19. Cop — (plead guilty)
20. Potpourri
21. Swift snipe
22. Trunk, trunk
23. Ruler of Spain
24. City or dance
25. Equine
26. "A dead"
28. Gout, osteoarthritis
31. Harzardous
32. Plains tribe
34. Is indebted
36. Go on cruise
37. Delayed
40. Goodbye in Grenada

DOWN
1. Bland prince
2. Composer's work
3. Toy boat
4. Charles
5. Roman historian
6. Charley —
7. Building wing
8. Fiction
9. A star
10. Complete
11. Sound of movement
12. Rhythmic
13. Rocky crag
14. The sun
15. Smooth
16. NE. topic
17. Frenzied

Diagramless
19 X 19, by Martha J. De Witt
ACROSS
1. Sandwich meat
6. Singly
7. Saver
11. Fastener
12. Ethnic group
13. Ravine
14. Boat basin
15. Heavy weight
16. Gun pit
17. Embroidered
18. Fish
24. King of awes
26. Occupies
28. Baseball player

DOWN
1. — of Avoon
2. Den
3. With tarpaulin
4. Kind of show
5. Tendency
6. Vestige
7. Hardest to find
8. Joy
9. Jap. currency
10. Horn
11. Carboxylic
12. Saw
13. Mr. Speaker
17. Evict
18. Den
21. Rocked stage
22. Fortification
23. Tendency
24. Seraglio
27. Alumnus for short
28. Auto
30. Nullified
31. Horn
32. Rife
33. Publish
34. Old victim
35. For short

ACROSS
39. MacGraw
40. Petrol
41. Brilliance
42. Embarrass
43. Exploit
44. Behind
45. Hummer head
46. Part
47. Dying
48. Mouth
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